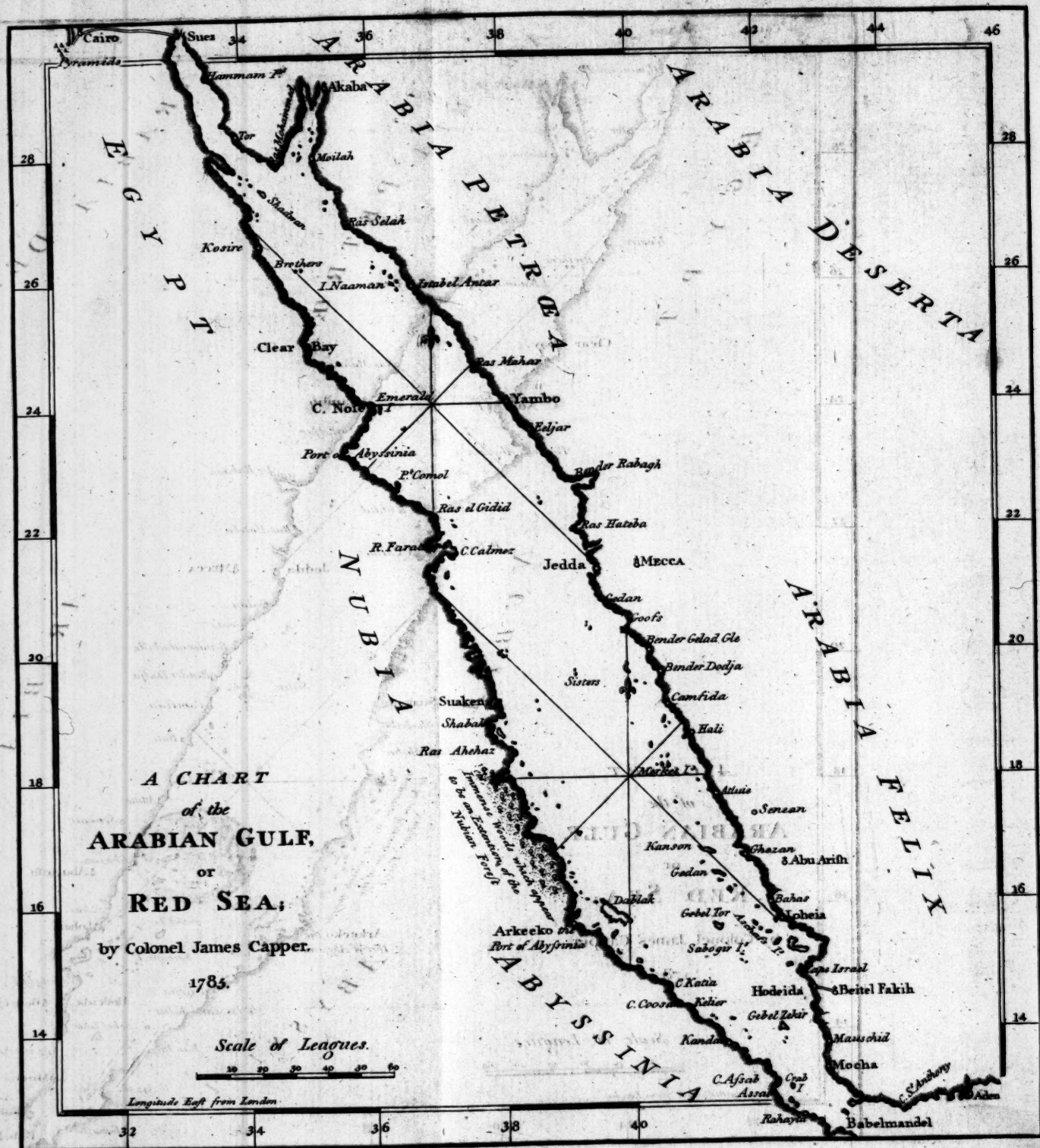
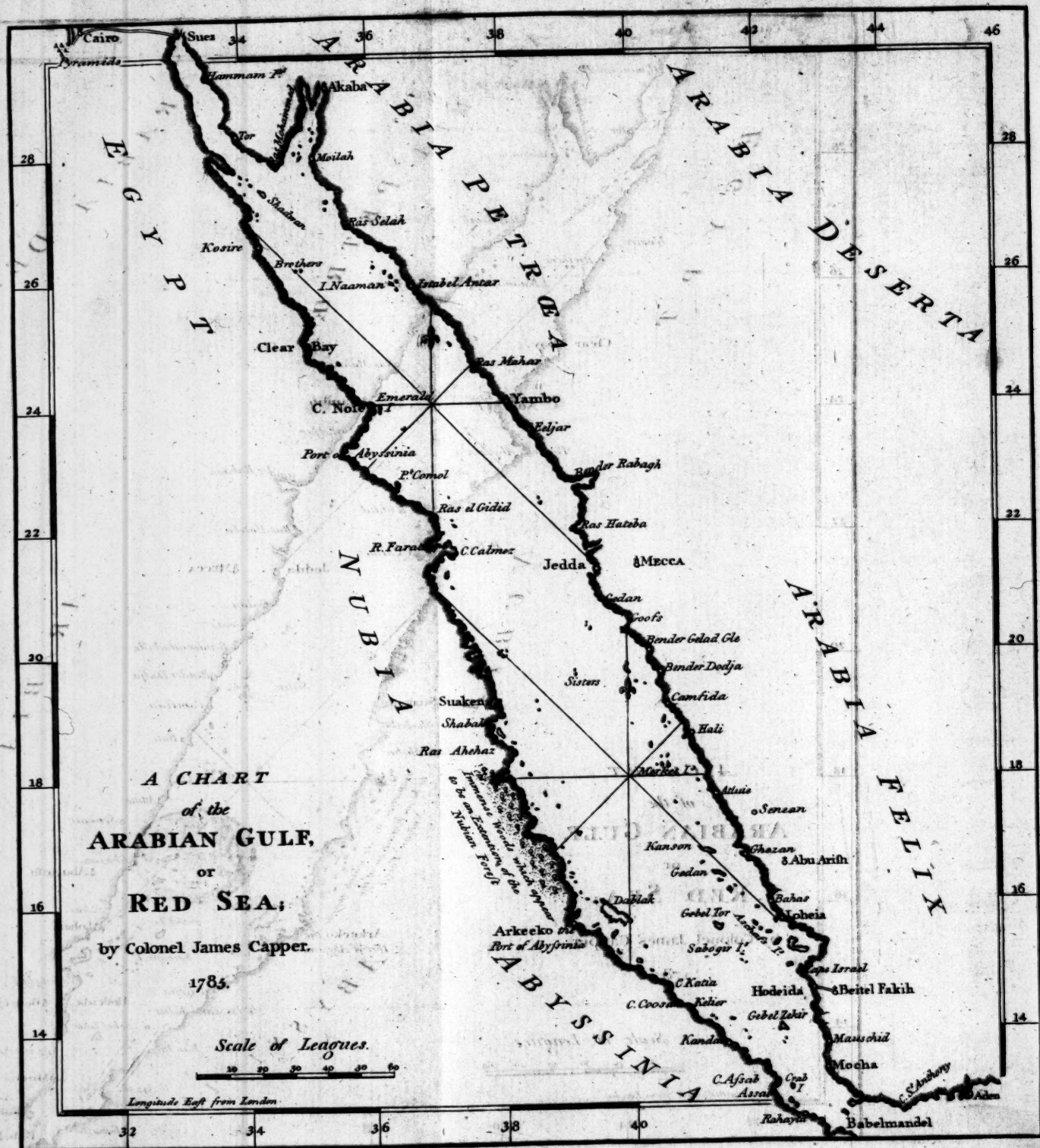




A CHART
of the
ARABIAN GULF,
or
RED SEA;
by Colonel James Capper.
1785.

Scale of Leagues.
0 10 20 30 40 50 60

Longitude East from London



A CHART
of the
ARABIAN GULF,
or
RED SEA;
by Colonel James Capper.
1785.

Scale of Leagues.
0 10 20 30 40 50 60

Longitude East from London

145 b 13

OBSERVATIONS
ON THE
PASSAGE TO INDIA,
THROUGH EGYPT.

ALSO

By VIENNA through CONSTANTINOPLE

TO

A L E P P O,

AND FROM THENCE

By BAGDAD, and directly across the GREAT DESERT, to

B A S S O R A.

WITH

Occasional REMARKS on the adjacent Countries,

An ACCOUNT of the different Stages,

And SKETCHES of the several Routes on four Copper Plates.

By JAMES CAPPER, Esq;

HÆC DUM INCIPIAS, GRAVIA SUNT,
DUMQUE IGNORES: UBI COGNORIS, FACILIA.

TERENCE.

The Third Edition, with Alterations and Additions.

L O N D O N:

Printed for W. FADEN, Geographer to the KING, *Charing Cross*;
J. ROBSON, in *New Bond Street*; and R. SEWELL, in *Cornhill*.

MDCCCLXXXV.

OBSEKVATIONS

PASSAGE OF THE

THE GREAT EGYPT

THE GREAT EGYPT

A. L. E. P. O.

THE GREAT EGYPT

THE GREAT EGYPT



THE GREAT EGYPT

THE GREAT EGYPT

TO
EDWARD COTSFORD, Esq; M. P.

THIS WORK IS INSCRIBED,
AS A SMALL TRIBUTE

OF
RESPECT AND ESTEEM,

BY
HIS SINCERE FRIEND,

AND HUMBLE SERVANT,

JAMES CAPPER.

New Bond Street,
March 1st, 1785.

TO
ADVERTISEMENT.

EDWARD COTSFORD, JR. M.T.

The principal inducement to this
work is the necessity of having a
reliable and accurate copy of the
original manuscript, and the
fact that the original is now in the
possession of the Library of the
University of Cambridge, and is
not accessible to the public. The
present work is a facsimile of the
original, and is intended to be
used as a reference work. It is
not intended to be a substitute for
the original, but to be used in
conjunction with it. The work is
intended to be a permanent
record of the original, and is
intended to be used as a reference
work. It is not intended to be a
substitute for the original, but to
be used in conjunction with it.

AND IN NEW YORK

James Capter

1850

ADVERTISEMENT.

The principal inducement with the Author for publishing the first edition of this work, he does not scruple to acknowledge was to submit to Government, The East-India Company, and The Public, his reasons for wishing to see revived a dormant plan of sending dispatches to and from India, by the Red Sea: whether his humble remonstrances have been attended to so as to promote the prosecution of this plan may hereafter appear; but besides this desirable object, he had also in view the pleasure of affording useful information to any of his friends, who might have occasion to pass to and from Europe, by the great desert; and in this part of his design he is happy to find, he has in many instances succeeded. The work however in its original form, containing only instructions for passing through France or Italy to the Levant, being limited and imperfect; he has been constantly endeavouring to procure an account of the rout through Vienna, and Constantinople, to Aleppo by land; which to many travellers may be far more agreeable, than going any part of the way by sea.

After

ADVERTISEMENT.

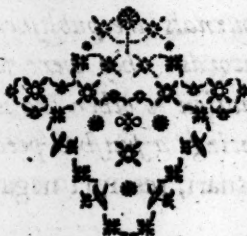
After much enquiry he has at length been favoured with two journals kept by Mr. Baldwin lately agent to the East-India Company at Cairo, who went at different times from Constantinople to Vienna, and also from Constantinople to Aleppo. This gentleman's extensive knowledge of the Oriental languages, and his long residence among the Turks, and Arabs, will no doubt give great weight to his observations on their manners, and customs. The reader will also find in these additional pages, many curious remarks and amusing anecdotes; which serve to characterize the different nations through which Mr. Baldwin passed: and also many useful geographical observations on classic ground, once well inhabited, and resorted to as the seat of the arts and sciences; but which for many ages past, has been little frequented by Europeans. The journals are published nearly in Mr. Baldwin's own words; they were written in haste, to convey information to other travellers, and with no idea of presenting a finished piece of composition to the public—Ornari, res ipsa negat, contenta doceri.*

* When the late rupture broke out with France, this gentleman who was then at Cairo, sent the earliest intelligence of it to India; which enabled the government at Madras to take Pondicherry before reinforcements could arrive from Europe, or the island of Mauritius. A proof at once of his merit, and of the advantage of being able to send dispatches by that rout.

To

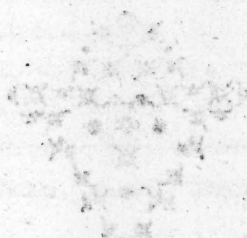
ADVERTISEMENT.

To the sketches in the former editions of this work, are added two others, the one, the façade of an ancient monument found in Natolia; the other, a chart of the Red Sea. Much pains have been taken to decipher the inscription still remaining on the building; but in vain; however it is generally supposed to be a mixture of Greek and Phœnician characters. From the necessary size of the Chart of the Red Sea, little more can be expected, than a general knowledge of the relative situation of the places referred to in the work; and those are laid down with all the accuracy possible, in a chart on so small a scale.



APPENDIX

To the Reader in the former edition of this work,
we added two others; the first, the paper of an an-
cient monument found in Bristol; the other, a letter
of the Rev. Dr. Mead, dated 1704, in which he
expresses the satisfaction he felt in reading on the building,
and in some measure is a general description of
a mixture of Greek and Christian architecture. From
the necessity of the Church of the Rev. Dr. Mead, it
can be expected, that a general knowledge of the
ancient structure of the church is to be derived,
and that we have been able to give the reader
the, in a short and plain manner.





P R E F A C E.

THE indulgent reception the first edition of this work met with, makes me lament that I am called upon for a second, before I have leisure to execute it in a manner more deserving the attention of the public: but as it is not unlikely many travellers may in the course of this year have occasion to pass to and from India by land, and be desirous of profiting by these instructions,

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I have therefore printed off a few copies with some typographical and other necessary corrections; and having before touched but slightly on the necessity of opening a communication with India by the Red Sea, I shall in this preface enter more minutely into the consideration of that important subject.

OUR extensive and valuable possessions in the East Indies have long excited the envy of all the other European nations; nor is it in the least improbable that the maritime powers of France, Spain, and Holland, were prompted to take an active part against us in the late unhappy war, not only with a view to deprive us of our Colonies in the West, but also if possible, to tear from us and divide between them, our possessions in the East: and that even the Emperor, and Russia, Denmark, and Sweden, remained

mained neuter, in hopes some time or other of at least sharing with us the profits of that beneficial trade. The Emperor principally for this purpose has already opened the Port of Trieste, and is endeavouring to revive the long lost trade of the different cities of the Netherlands. Russia has obtained free egress into the Black Sea, in order to divert into its old channel, that branch of it that was carried on by the Gulph of Persia. Denmark may look forward towards extending their present possessions in that part of the world; and Sweden probably hopes to come in for a share of the spoils, and to obtain some establishment in India by the means of their old allies the French. Had not some ideas of this nature prevailed, we should not during the late war have fought against such an host of enemies,

nor when threatened with destruction have been deserted by our best friends.

THE same causes very likely gave rise to, and may continue to keep alive the unnatural connection between the court of Versailles, and the republican party in Holland. The French, when they are rich enough to begin another contest with us, are most undoubtedly determined to make their attack in the East; and as they have no port nearer to the Peninsula of India, than the island of Mauritius, they have formed a close connection with the Dutch, that they may at once derive aid from the co-operation of their joint forces, and enjoy the benefit of Trincomalee, one of the safest harbours in the world; and by far the best situated of any in India, either for covering their own settlements in the Bay of Bengal, or for annoying ours.

Nor

Nor is it surprizing that the Dutch should readily join in this plan, for in case of a rupture with them, we might otherwise, by means of a superior fleet, in a very few weeks drive them off the peninsula of India ; and also obtain possession of the island of Ceylon, by far the most precious jewel belonging to the republic in the East.

DURING the late war we frequently in India had no intelligence from England for eight or nine months ; nor did we hear of the rupture with Spain until upwards of eleven months after the commencement of hostilities in Europe. The Spaniards fortunately for us, being slow in their deliberations, and by no means quick in their operations, took no advantage of our want of information : but should a war break out with France and Holland, which for the reasons

reasons I have already mentioned appears to me by no means improbable, we may find all our settlements invested before we know they are in danger of being attacked, and hear of their being totally lost, before we are able to relieve them. The means by which we may prevent our enemies anticipating us in sending advices to India, are in some measure already pointed out in the introduction to this work ; but since the publication of the former edition, an occurrence has happened that will greatly facilitate the plan therein proposed of applying for a revocation of the Turkish edict, and which likewise ought to induce them to let our couriers pass unmolested through Egypt.

THE occurrence to which I allude is, the treaty of peace lately concluded between the Russians and the Turks ; by
which

which the former have obtained leave in future to pass the Dardanelles, and to enjoy the free navigation of the Black Sea. After having thus opened the principal door of their empire to their avowed and formidable rivals, they cannot with any propriety or shew of reason, refuse us leave at least to send packet boats up the Red Sea to Suez; in one case they give up a solid advantage, in the other, nothing is asked of them that can even indirectly affect either their honour or interest. And indeed it may be well worth their consideration, whether it will not be better for them to throw open all their ports to the other Europeans in general, than by partially sharing the profits of their trade with the Russians, strengthen and enrich that particular nation, of whose encrease of wealth and power they have most reason to be jealous.

THE

THE Egyptian government being in a great measure independent of the Porte, it may also be necessary to consider whether the Beys would approve of our couriers passing through their country. The Beys have always encouraged the trade from India to Suez, as much as such a fluctuating and turbulent body of men can be supposed to encourage any measure of public utility. The reason of which is obvious; if they by any means could bring the India trade directly to Suez, they would receive all the import and export duties now paid at Gedda, to the amount of near two hundred thousand pounds per annum; and therefore of course they will encourage a measure from which they would derive such considerable profits. The only opposition we should meet with, would come from the Sherreef of Mecca; and even he, as I have before observed,

observed, will no longer be troublesome when he finds that we refrain from trading, and strictly confine ourselves to sending packet boats with letters.

ALMOST every year some event occurs to shew the necessity of our being able to send packets by the Red Sea; of which I shall mention a very striking instance that happened at the conclusion of the last war. When the peace was signed, the news of it was transmitted to India, both across the great desert, and also round the Cape of Good Hope; nevertheless it did not reach Madras until the end of the month of June. On the 13th and 25th of that month there were two engagements by land, and about the same time one by sea, in which there fell eighty officers, and upwards of two thousand men. Now had this passage to Suez been open at

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that

that time, the dispatches might have been sent from England to the scene of action in seventy days, and of course have prevented this unnecessary sacrifice of so many gallant men. But this misfortune, great as it was, might have been still worse; for after our fleet bore away for Madras, Mons. de Suffrein proposed to land all his marines and a body of seamen to join the French troops at Cuddalore, and make a desperate attack on our camp. If therefore, the dispatches had by any unforeseen accident been detained only a few days longer, and this plan had been carried into execution, the effusion of blood at least would have been still more considerable: nor is it improbable that with such a superior force they might have cut off our whole army, then lying before Cuddalore, in consequence of which Madras and indeed all our settlements on the coast

coast of Choromandel must inevitably have fallen into the hands of Tippo Sahib, who would have paid little or no regard to our peace with the French. The fall of Bombay, and Bengal, with their dependencies, must soon have followed that of Madras; and the loss of all our possessions in the east would no doubt have shaken the foundations of public credit at home. When it is considered then, that the lives of thousands, the safety of our settlements, and almost the existence of public credit, depend on our being able to convey intelligence expeditiously to India; it will naturally be supposed, that nothing less than the fear of incurring an intolerable expence, can be thought an admissible objection against forming a regular plan for that purpose and instantly carrying it into execution: but in fact there is no room for such an objection; for the payment of a moderate

rate postage would more than defray the whole of the expence; which at all events in an affair of such magnitude, ought only to be deemed a secondary consideration.





INTRODUCTION.

THE following letter was written in India at the request of Sir Eyre Coote, who once had thoughts of returning to Europe by the way of Suez. It was not at that time intended for publication, however since my return to England many of my friends having desired a copy of it, to avoid the trouble of transcribing it myself, or the expence of having it transcribed by others, I have at last reluctantly consented to its going to the press.

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THIS the first difficulty surmounted, I shall now endeavour to make this publication as acceptable as I can, by adding to it an account of the proper time, and most agreeable manner, of going from Europe to India by Suez : but first, as the Turks have at present forbidden any Europeans to pass that way, it will be proper to explain the cause of this prohibition ; and to shew that their objections against travellers going through Egypt may be easily removed.

THIS route to India was once the most frequented of any, but after the discovery of the passage round the Cape of Good Hope, it was neglected by most European nations, and almost entirely abandoned to the Mahomedans, who carry on the trade of the Red Sea in the following manner.

IN the months of November, December, and January, the Mahomedan Pilgrims who are going to Mecca from the coasts of Barbary, Turkey, Tartary, and Egypt, assemble near Suez ; some of them form a caravan and proceed from thence by land, but those who have merchandize, freight large ships from six to twelve hundred

hundred tons to carry them and their goods to Gedda, a sea-port within sixty miles of Mecca, and about two degrees south of the Tropic. As different winds prevail on the different sides of the Tropic in the Red Sea, ships may come to Gedda from opposite points at the same season of the year; those which come from Suez at the above-mentioned time, benefit by the N. W. wind, while those that come from India and Arabia Felix are assisted by the regular S. W. Monsoon. The pilgrims from the West and North having fulfilled the duties of their religion, and settled their worldly concerns; contrive if they can to embark at Gedda, time enough to avail themselves of the * Khumseen wind, which blows southerly from the end of March to the middle of May, and conveys them in less than a month back again to Suez: the vessels from India must also quit Gedda so as to be out of the streights of Babelmandel before the end of August. This meeting of the Mahomedans at Gedda has given rise to a sort of annual fair there, which as all goods imported pay a

* KHUMSEEN or Khumsoon, the Arabic term fifty; from this wind blowing during that number of days in the manner above described.

regular duty of ten per cent. must yield a considerable revenue to the government.

10 THE government of Gedda properly speaking is vested in the Sherreef or high Priest of Mecca; but in order when necessary to obtain the protection and support of the Turks, he also allows the * Grand Signior to send a Bashaw there. The Sherreef appropriates the major part of the revenues to his own use, giving only a small share of them to the Bashaw; but sometimes he is obliged also to transmit a few purses to Constantinople, to keep the Grand Signior and his ministers in good humour.

IN the year 1774 the Governor General of Bengal proposed to some merchants in Calcutta to send a ship to the Red Sea, loaded with a proper assortment of goods for the Turkish markets; and instead of landing them at Gedda, he advised their being sent directly to Suez; by which means he expected to establish a new trade equally beneficial to us and to the Turks

* THE Grand Signior affects to have imperial authority over the three Arabias, and the coast of Barbary, but which in fact is never allowed by the Princes of any of those countries, unless when it suits their convenience as in this instance.

in general, and also to open a new channel for transmitting intelligence backwards and forwards, between India and Europe. It is not necessary in this place to consider the merits of the commercial part of this plan, suffice it to say, that the Sherreef of Mecca very soon took the alarm, and used all his influence both spiritual and temporal to put a stop to its continuance. In his negociation at the Porte in this business, he was zealously assisted also by a large body of Turkish merchants, who were apprehensive of suffering by the prices of India goods being lowered in their markets, which must have totally put an end to the old established trade of Bassora and Aleppo. By such a weighty concurrence of interest an edict was obtained from the Grand Signior, which stripped of its official tautology, and oriental hyperbole, contains no more than what follows.

“ HISTORIANS inform us, that the Christians, an enterprizing and artful race, have from the earliest times constantly made use of deceit and violence to effect their ambitious purposes. Under the disguise of merchants they formerly introduced themselves into Damascus and Jerusalem; in the same manner

“ner they have since obtained a footing in
 “Hindustan, where the English have reduced
 “the inhabitants to slavery; so now likewise
 “encouraged by the Beys, the same people have
 “lately attempted to insinuate themselves into
 “Egypt, with a view no doubt as soon as they
 “have made maps of the country, and taken
 “plans of the fortifications, to attempt the
 “conquest of it.

“IN order to counteract these their danger-
 “ous designs, on first hearing of their proceed-
 “ings, we enjoined their Ambassador to write
 “to his court desiring their vessels might not
 “be allowed to frequent the port of Suez;
 “which requisition having been fully complied
 “with, if any of their vessels presume here-
 “after to anchor there, the cargo shall be con-
 “fiscated, and all persons on board be impris-
 “oned, until our further pleasure be known.”

IF it were necessary, the Christians might
 very easily vindicate themselves from the asper-
 sions contained in this edict, and with great
 truth and justice recriminate upon the Maho-
 medans; and indeed had not the Grand Signior
 been strangely misinformed concerning the pro-
 ceedings

ceedings of both parties in India, he would hardly have ventured to make a comparison between them.

THEY are both equally strangers in that Country. The Mahomedans unprovoked by the Hindoos invaded and took possession of their country; whereas the English introduced themselves as merchants, and carried on a trade very profitable to the natives for upwards of an hundred years, without ever shewing the least hostile disposition against either the peaceable Hindoos, or the Mahomedan usurpers. But after Surage ul Dowla had exercised the most wanton cruelty on the Company's servants, by causing a number of them to be suffocated in the black hole of Calcutta; to revenge their deaths, and to preserve our commercial privileges which we held by grant from the Court of Delhi, we first took up arms in Bengal: nor can the most rigid moralist and much less the Grand Signior find any cause to censure our conduct in thus vindicating the honour and interest of our country*. It is true that Hindostan has
been

* THE different conduct of the Christians and Mahomedans in India will appear in a more striking point of view from the relation

been more impoverished under our government in the short space of thirty years, than it was under that of the Moguls, in the course of three or four centuries; from whence people hastily conclude, that the Hindoos have been more oppressed by us, than they were by their former conquerors. This opinion however is by no means well founded: it must be remem-

relation of an anecdote of Oriental history, which accidentally came to the knowledge of the author.

“ SURAGE ul Dowla was the grandson of the great Alyverdi Khan, who had a favourite wife, a woman of extraordinary abilities and great virtue. When Alyverdi was dying, knowing the flighty and tyrannical disposition of his grandson, whom he intended for his successor, he advised him on all important occasions after his death to consult the old queen, whose discernment would enable her to foresee dangers imperceptible to an impetuous and inexperienced youth like him.

WHEN Surage ul Dowla instigated by avarice intended to attack Calcutta, he consulted this oracle, who advised him against it in the following prophetic words. “ The English are a peaceable and industrious people; like bees, if properly encouraged and protected, they will bring you honey, but beware of disturbing the hive! you may perhaps destroy a few of them, but in the end believe me, they will sting you to death.” A prediction which was soon after verified. From this well-known fact it appears that we were considered as pacifically inclined, and by no means suspected of a disposition to enslave the natives or quarrel with the Mahomedans; until compelled to take up arms to avoid being enslaved ourselves.”

bered

bered that the Mahomedan invaders settled in Hindostan, and consequently the money their Viceroys exacted from the Inhabitants of course returned again into general circulation; and during that time also the European nations imported annually large sums in specie. But since we acquired territorial possessions, not only ourselves but also almost all other maritime powers of Europe, have traded with the specie of India, which having been for many years past thus regularly drained, without receiving its usual supplies, is now almost entirely exhausted. Much more might be urged in our favour against the charges exhibited against us by the Grand Signior; but it being foreign to the subject of this work, I shall content myself with observing, that his majesty evidently declares in his edict the sentiments of others and not his own; for did he really think as unfavourably of us as he affects to do in order to justify his conduct, he would not only exclude us from the port of Suez, but also compel us to leave every other part of his dominions; whereas on the contrary it is well-known, that he allows us to have factories at Constantinople, Smyrna, Aleppo, and many other places in Turkey, without shewing the least apprehension of our seizing on

his cities, or enslaving his people. We may therefore reasonably consider the Sherreef of Mecca, as the principal author of this scurrilous libel, who hoped thereby to keep the trade of the Red Sea in its old channel.

WHEN our government thought proper to comply with the requisition of the Porte concerning the trade to Suez, it is much to be lamented, that our minister at Constantinople, was not instructed to stipulate for some delay in issuing the edict, so that a proper time might be allowed for sending a copy of it to India: for want of this precaution, some merchants going in the mean time from Suez to Cairo, were plundered and murdered by a body of Arabs. Supposing even for a moment, what was not the case, that the merchants had been informed of the prohibition; still they were not punished in a regular manner, nor even according to the tenor of the firmaun, which decrees only a confiscation of their property, and an imprisonment of their persons: whereas these unfortunate men were some of them cut to pieces, and others left to perish of hunger and thirst on the Desert; a mode of punishment which plainly shews, that the massacre was made by a banditti

ditti set on by a ruffian like themselves; the Turkish government, despotic as it is, would have proceeded with more regularity, and less cruelty. But here again we may trace the hand of the Sherreef of Mecca, who, no doubt, expected by an act of uncommon violence and barbarity, to deter every other Christian from passing that way; and also at once to gratify his avarice and resentment, by seizing on such a valuable booty.

BUT the Grand Signior having issued this firmaun, forbidding our ships to come to Suez, and expressed himself in it, in such very strong terms: it may perhaps be deemed expedient to abandon the trade, rather than involve ourselves in a dispute with him; but surely no person will think, that we ought also to give up the right of sending pacquets that way, to which neither the Grand Signior, nor even the Sherreef of Mecca himself, can offer the smallest reasonable objection.

EVERY man acquainted with India must know, that it is of the highest importance to individuals, to the company, and to the nation at large, to have this channel of communication

opened again. During the latter part of the late war, after the firman was issued, the French regularly transmitted advices by Suez, to and from India, by which means they frequently anticipated us in intelligence, and of course counteracted our operations. It is not necessary to particularize every instance, but it will doubtless be well remembered, that the news of the unfortunate defeat of Colonel Baillie came to England through France, where it was known in February; time enough for them to send out reinforcements to Hyder Ally, before the best season for passing the Cape of Good Hope was elapsed: whilst we who were ignorant of that disaster until April, could not send out any ships before the return of the ensuing season, near six months afterwards.

SINCE then, nothing less than the existence of our settlements in India, may some time or other depend upon our possessing a right of passing unmolested through Egypt; and the prohibitory firman was only intended to prevent the trade of Gedda from being transferred to Suez; surely no time should be lost in demanding another firman explanatory of the first, and declaring that no persons dependent on,

on, or connected with the Turkish government, shall impede or molest any British subject in passing up the Red Sea, or through Egypt, provided they have nothing but papers and such baggage only as travellers may be supposed to have occasion for on such a journey. The Sherreef of Mecca may probably at first oppose our enjoying this privilege, in which also it is likely he will be secretly supported by the French*; but can it be thought prudent in us to submit to the controul of the one, or to be dupes of the secret machinations of the other, especially when consistently with justice, we can easily get the better of both.

AFTER shewing from what cause, the opposition to our having a free passage this way to India arose, and exposing the futility of the charges contained in the edict: I shall next consider what is the best time for setting out from England.

* It is not intended to insinuate that the French ever did, or ever would co-operate with the Sherreef in employing assassins; but as our rivals in politics, it is very natural to suppose they will endeavour to prevail on the Grand Signior, not to revoke his present firmaun, the existence of which is so disgraceful and detrimental to us.

THE

THE season for undertaking this journey commences early in April, and ends early in June; during which time a person accustomed to travel, will easily arrive at Alexandria from London in about a month, that is supposing he has previously determined what route to pursue to the Mediterranean; and also has caused a vessel to be prepared for him on his arrival at the place where he intends to embark. The northerly and westerly winds prevail in the Mediterranean in May, June and July; and therefore in these months, the passage from Marseilles, Leghorn, or Venice to Alexandria, in a tolerable good sailing vessel seldom exceeds eighteen days, and is often performed in ten or twelve; from Alexandria he will easily get to Suez in eight days; and from thence to Anjengo is a voyage of twenty-five days; to Bombay twenty-eight; to Madras thirty-five; and to Bengal forty; making the journey from England to India, at the most seventy-eight days, at the least fifty-nine, and at a medium sixty-eight and a half. This perhaps to some people, may appear too nice a calculation, considering it is an undertaking dependent upon many accidents of winds and weather; but in answer to this objection it must be remembered, that great part of the voyage

voyage is performed within the Tropic, where the winds and weather are perfectly periodical; and even in the Mediterranean where only the winds are variable, they are never known in summer, to blow long between the S. and E. the only quarter of the compass unfavourable to the vessels bound from the ports of Italy and France, to the Levant. The manner of performing the principal part of the voyage, that is through Egypt and from thence to India, is in a great measure explained in the following letter; but in that nothing is mentioned of the European part of the journey.

It cannot be necessary to offer much advice to couriers, they of course consult only the most expeditious mode of travelling, without paying the least attention to their own private pleasure or convenience. Gentlemen on the contrary, less able, or less willing to bear fatigue, will wish to be informed how they may perform this voyage agreeably; at a moderate expence; and without a risque of injuring their health. The first thing to be provided is a strong second-hand post-chaise, which will cost between thirty and forty pounds: a large trunk before, a small one behind, and a chaise seat

seat will carry as much or more baggage than
 is necessary for two gentlemen, and one servant ;
 allowing each gentleman a Turkish dress, two
 coats, a dozen and half of shirts, two dozen
 pair of common, and one dozen pair of silk
 stockings, two pair of shoes, and other neces-
 saries in the same proportion. This perhaps
 may be thought a scanty allowance ; for gene-
 rally young travellers prepare for their first
 excursion on the continent, as if nothing could
 be procured out of their own country ; whereas
 experience soon teaches them that they have
 not occasion for much more baggage than Mr.
 Sterne carried with him on his sentimental
 journey. Those who are fond of tea, and are
 nice about the quality of it, as many English-
 men are, will do well to take two or three
 pounds with them ; for that which they will
 find in the inns abroad or any where on the
 way will be rather coarse and unpalatable. It
 may also be proper to take a few cakes of port-
 able soup to serve on board a ship, and even
 on shore, particularly in Egypt ; to which may
 be added a bottle or two of the essence of felly, or
 with which and a little vermicelli or rice, a
 person may prepare a good mess of soup on the
 Desert.

Desert, with the same fire that serves the Arabs to boil their coffee.

WITH liquor every person may suit himself, remembering that either in France or Italy at the place where he embarks, he may purchase a great variety of good wines; and at Alexandria he may procure a fresh supply, should his sea stock be exhausted on his arrival there. As to medicines it is universally allowed the fewer he is obliged to take the better, still however he should consider his constitution, and if he is subject to any particular disorder, he will do well to consult his physician about carrying with him a small quantity of those medicines which he is most likely to require. The most healthy and robust are not exempt from accidents, therefore every person may take from England half a dozen papers of James's powders, and two pounds of bark, which are cheap, and easily carried, and besides the former is seldom to be procured so good in any foreign country; no person however should take or administer these medicines, without having previously endeavoured to learn in what cases, and in what proportions, they may be given with efficacy and safety. This advice,

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especially that which relates to culinary matters, may appear trivial to travellers who have been accustomed to go from one post town to another in Europe; but in Asia, where there are no inns, a prudent man although no epicure will do well to guard against being in want of a sufficient supply of wholesome food. The necessity of carrying medicine will hardly be disputed, but neither would I advise any person to undertake crossing the great desert, without learning to bleed and dress slight wounds, by which means he may not only save his own life, or that of a friend, but he will also merely from the reputation of his skill, obtain great respect from the whole caravan. The practice of surgery it is true is disagreeable to those who are not brought up in the profession, but it is still more disagreeable not to be able to administer relief to a fellow creature in distress.

THESE hints being given for providing a carriage, clothes, provision and medicines, some account may next be expected of the expence, but that is at present impossible. If government or the company should hereafter establish packet boats between the European ports and
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Alexandria, and also between Suez and the ports of India, the expence will then be easily ascertained, and considering the length of the voyage, be very moderate. The chaise will sell at the place of embarkation for as much or more than it cost in England; the only expence therefore of the journey through Europe would be the post horses and charges at the inns, amounting to those who like to live well to about fifty pounds; to the Captain of the packet to Alexandria, if he finds the table, forty pounds; at Alexandria ten pounds; from thence to Suez forty pounds; at Suez ten pounds; from thence to India sixty pounds; and for contingences forty pounds; making altogether two hundred and fifty pounds, which divided between two, makes one hundred and twenty-five pounds each. But this account of the journey, and the calculation of the expence must be understood to relate only to the outward bound passengers: those who come home will not travel so fast, nor so cheap; for in the first place they will be much longer coming up, than going down the Red Sea, and consequently must pay dearer for their passage; and besides the delay and expence of performing

quarantine must come into the account of the return from India to Europe.

* IT is said a plan is now in agitation to subvert the Turkish empire, the success of which must in a great measure depend upon the part we are inclined to take in the contest: but should the Imperialists and Russians prevail; the desert between Suez and Cairo may hereafter become the post road to India, and Europeans pass it with as little apprehension of danger, as any person now feels in performing a journey from London to Paris. But this perhaps to some politicians may not be thought a very desirable event, lest such a facility of communication between Europe and Asia, should in the end be detrimental to our India trade. Let such men calculate the expence of sending goods up the Red Sea to Suez; of landing those goods, and transporting them on camels upwards of seventy miles to the Nile; of sending them from Cairo to Alexandria,

• SINCE the publication of the first edition of this work, a peace has been concluded between the Russians and the Turks, by which the former have obtained from the latter the free navigation of the Black Sea, and many other considerable advantages.

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Rosetta, or Damietta; and of reimbarking them at one of those places for the European Markets; and they will find that goods sent round the Cape of Good Hope at a proper season, and subject to no expence, or danger of being spoilt on the way, would come at least fifty per cent. cheaper to any market in Europe.

WHEN the Venetians lost the India trade, no violence, no finesse was used to deprive them of it; the trade died away of itself, because the Portugeze and other European nations, passing round the Cape of Good Hope, could by means of the shortness and safety of the voyage, afford to under-sell them in those articles of India commerce which they received only by the more tedious, dangerous, and expensive channel of the Red Sea: But the probability of the danger of the trade by this route becoming prejudicial to ours by the Cape of Good Hope, being admitted in its fullest extent; are we to suppose that other European nations are so blind to their own interest, so strangely ignorant, or so absurdly indolent, as not to discover it, and immediately avail themselves of their knowledge? If goods can really be brought cheaper from India to Europe that way,

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in vain shall we attempt to oppose the general interests of Europe and Asia; the India trade must in the course of a few years unavoidably find its way to the easiest and most profitable channel. He who thinks otherwise, knows but little of human nature, and still less of the principles of politics, and trade.

BUT whether or not the trade by the Red Sea will materially operate to the prejudice of that by the Cape of Good Hope, is not at present the question; nor is it certainly our business to encourage the experiment: all that is immediately contended for is the revocation of the firmaun, as far as relates to obtaining a free passage for our couriers through Egypt, which in common justice cannot be refused. The tenor of the firmaun essentially affects our interest, and the language of it is extremely insulting; nor should it be forgotten that it was issued in the hour of our deepest distress. Happily the scene is now reversed, - of which if we are too generous to take advantage, still however it is to be hoped we shall at least oblige the Turks to admit our claims of a free passage through every part of their dominions.

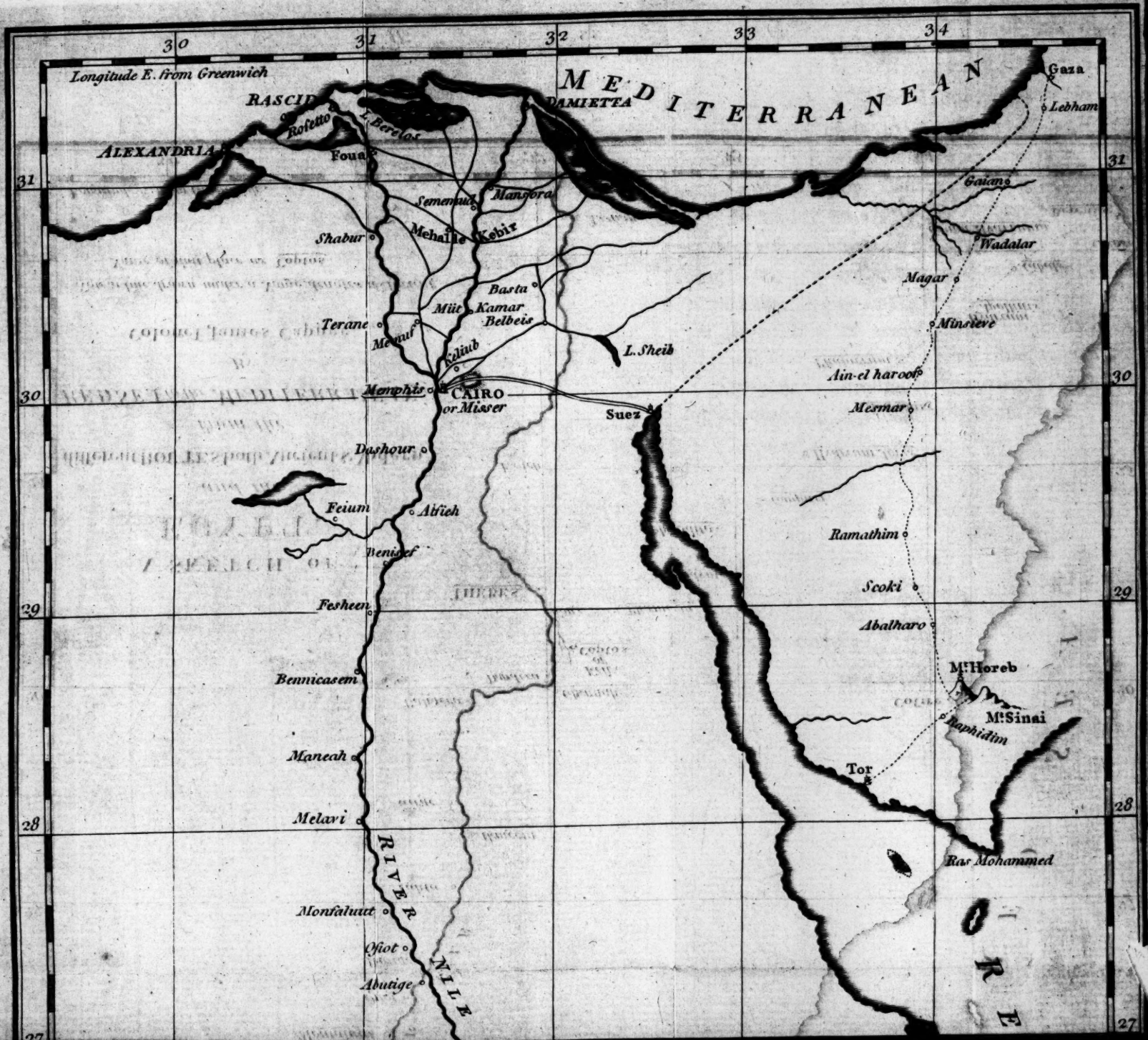
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THE way to India by Bassora is fatiguing, and rather dangerous, and consequently will seldom be taken by choice, or for the bare gratification of curiosity; but as some of the company's servants may be obliged to pass over the great Desert on public business, I think it incumbent on me to furnish them with all the information in my power, that they may execute the orders of their employers with safety and dispatch; and also perform the journey with all possible convenience to themselves. For this purpose I shall subjoin to this work the copy of a journal I kept when going that route, and as a common itinerary would be very uninteresting to most readers, I shall intersperse in it some anecdotes and remarks, which I trust will be deemed both amusing and useful.

By the several ways of the Cape of Good Hope, Suez, and Bassora, we shall be able to send dispatches to and from India at all seasons; but being excluded from any one of them, there will be an anxious interval of some months in every year, when we shall mutually be ignorant of what is passing in the different countries. The best season for leaving England, to

go by the Cape of Good Hope, commences in November and ends in April; that by Suez commences in April and ends in the middle of June; and that by Bassora will be the best route all the rest of the year. To have a constant succession of intelligence established almost as regular as our posts at home, would be but a very trifling, if any expence; would afford general satisfaction to every person concerned in India affairs; and at the same time would be productive of innumerable advantages both to Government and the East India company.



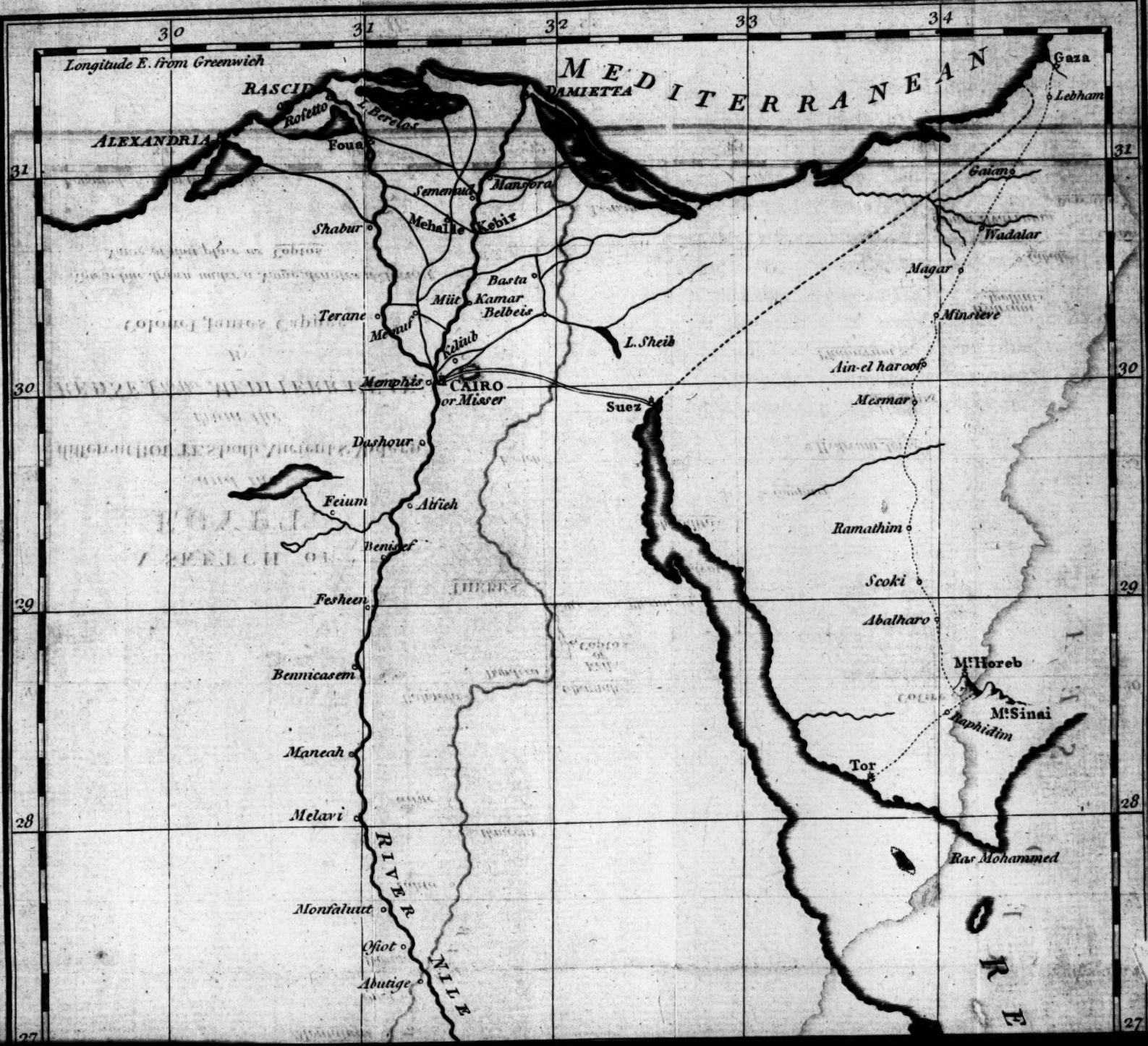


Longitude E. from Greenwich

MEDITERRANEAN

RED SEA

NILE
RIVER

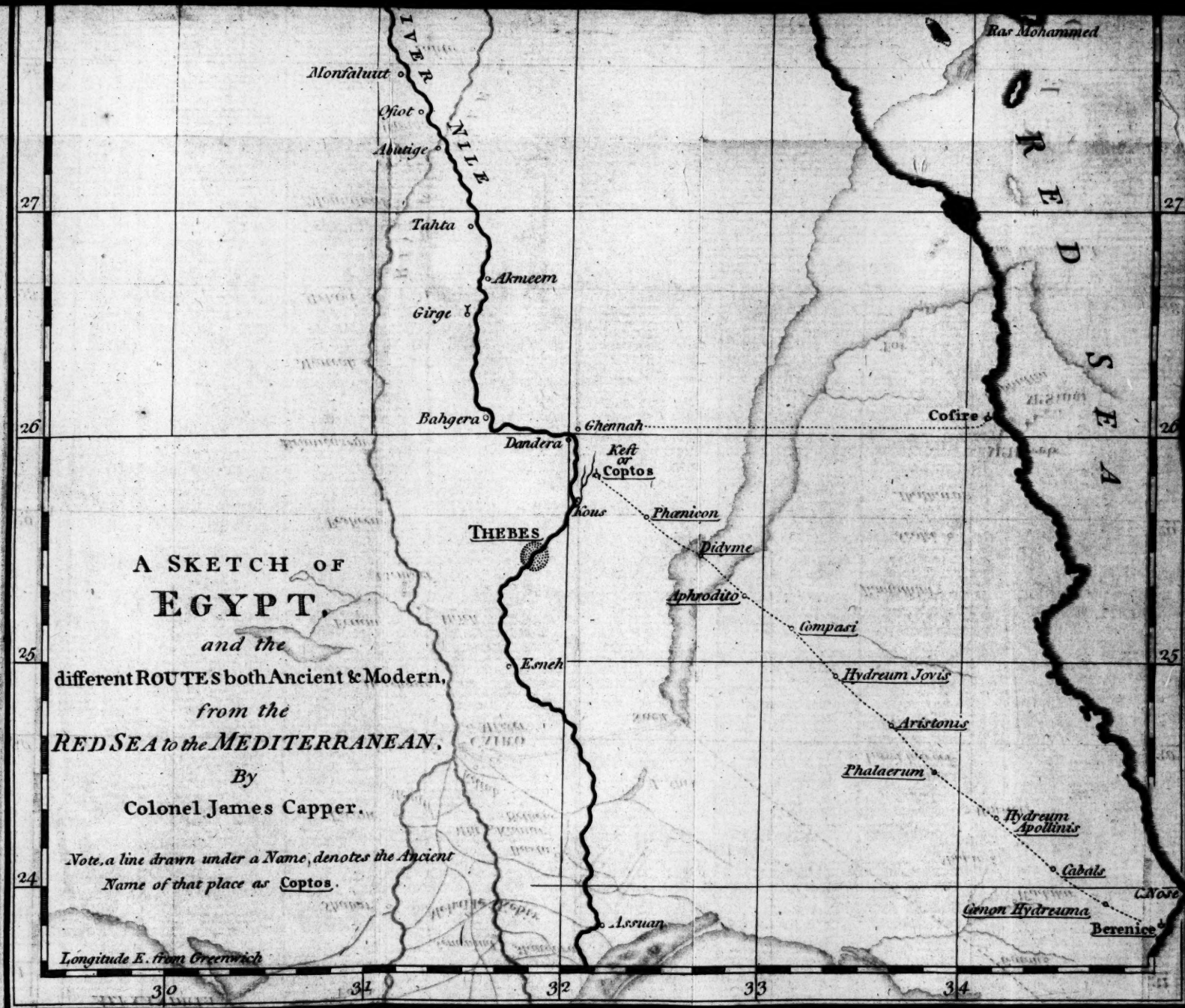


A SKETCH OF
EGYPT,
and the
different ROUTES both Ancient & Modern,
from the
RED SEA to the MEDITERRANEAN.

By
Colonel James Capper.

Note, a line drawn under a Name, denotes the Ancient
Name of that place as Coptos.

Longitude E. from Greenwich





LETTER.

S I R,

I SHOULD find very little difficulty in writing such an account of a journey over land to Europe by the way of Suez as would be useful, and perhaps in some degree entertaining to a person who had never passed over the great desert; but I confess myself puzzled how to address you on the subject, who have already gone by the way of Bassora, and consequently must be perfectly acquainted with almost every thing necessary for a traveller to know. But as

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I may not be able to discriminate between what may, and what may not be requisite for you, to know; allow me Sir! to enter on the subject, as if you had never been in Arabia; the major part of the advice if not necessary for yourself, may hereafter perhaps be serviceable to some of your friends.

THE principal objections I have heard mentioned against a voyage to Europe by the way of Suez are the expence, the inconvenience, and the danger of it. The expence would be trifling to a man of fortune, or when divided between two or three persons would be less to each of them than going round the Cape of Good Hope; the navigation of the Red Sea being now tolerably well known can in a proper season no longer be deemed dangerous; and as to inconvenience, I know of none, but what might be almost entirely removed by means of a little money properly applied. In passing from Suez to Alexandria, you may possibly meet with some disagreeable embarrassments from which a man of rank and fortune is generally exempt in a more civilized country; but most of these are to be avoided, or at least greatly lessened by giving presents

presents of no great value to the Beys, and other leading men in Egypt.

IN all Arabian and Turkish countries, especially in those near the city of Mecca, to avoid the insults of the lower class of people, an European should allow his beard and whiskers to grow, and always wear an Eastern dress; it is best to make up a coarse one in the Arabian fashion for travelling, and another rather elegant in the Turkish fashion to wear at Cairo, and Alexandria. If you perform the journey in winter, a pellis will be both useful and ornamental; but it may be proper to remark that a Christian should not wear green clothes at any place in the Levant, for green is a colour deemed sacred to those who have made the pilgrimage to Mecca, and to the descendants of the Prophet; nor do the Turks like to see an European in red, which was also Mahomed's favourite colour.

THOSE who undertake long journies in Europe are obliged to furnish themselves with bills of exchange, but on this they are not indispensably necessary; a person of character may have credit to any amount the whole way for drafts

upon England or India; but if you do not choose to be without a sufficient supply of ready money, you should take with you Venetian chequins, which are very portable, and at the same time current in all countries between India and England.

I PRESUME you will find no difficulty in getting an Interpreter to attend you, who speaks both the Arabic and Turkish languages: the former is absolutely necessary from the entrance of the Red Sea to Suez, the latter is mostly used by all men of distinction in Egypt.

DURING the month of November, at which time I should propose you to leave Madras, the voyage round the island of Ceylon is extremely tedious; I should imagine therefore it would be more eligible for you to apply to the Government of Bombay, for one or more of the Company's cruizers, to be sent about the middle of November to Anjengo, the one for yourself, and another small one for a tender or pilot vessel. The captain of the ship on which you embark will of course take care to lay in a sufficient stock of every kind of provision for your table, but above all he should be directed to take plenty of
water

water from Bombay, for that on the southern part of the Malabar Coast is but indifferent, and the best to be got in the Red Sea is scarcely drinkable. If you travel through the Travancore country with your baggage in the month of November, which is during the height of the Monsoon, the rain may spoil it; your servants therefore should set out with it somewhat earlier: in a good palanquin you yourself will be very little incommoded by the weather, for you may sleep every night in good Choultries or else in Churches all the way from Pallamcotah to Anjengo*. A mariner might perhaps advise you not to sail so soon as November from the Malabar coast; he would say it was too early to make the most expeditious passage, for that

* In the East where there are no inns, they have been obliged to erect public buildings for the reception of travellers, which bear different names in different countries; on the coast of Chormandel they are called Choultries. The above-mentioned Churches are those which the Catholic Missionaries have prevailed on the King of Travancore to allow them to build on the sea coast of his country; but the good fathers, although indefatigable in their duty, have by their zeal rather injured than served the cause of Christianity; for having received the lowest and most abandoned outcasts of the country into the bosom of the church, and not made any other converts; the Christians in India with respect to religion, are universally looked upon as the refuse of all other people.

you

you will be liable to meet with contrary winds above Gedda. It is true if you are desirous of making a short voyage to Suez you should not think of passing Gedda before the commencement of the Khumseen wind; but for my own part, I should not hesitate about submitting to be a few days longer on board a ship to enjoy the satisfaction of travelling through Egypt in cool weather. The Khumseen wind comes from the same quarter as the well known Siroco, and is productive of nearly the same effects; it is unpleasant even at sea, and in passing the desert would be almost intolerable. The plague is also apt to break out late in the spring, and seldom rages at Cairo violently before March or April. As your Captain will doubtless be an experienced officer, and likewise be furnished with good charts, it will not be necessary for me to trouble you with a nautical memoire; I shall therefore only touch very slightly on marine observations, and confine my remarks to what may principally contribute to your convenience or amusement.

It is usual for ships in the month of November to work up the Malabar coast by the assistance of the land and sea breezes as high as
 Porca

Porca or Cochin, and then with the N. E. wind to stretch over to the westward, and make Calpini and Schulipar two of the Lacadivi's; after leaving these the next land you make is the island of Socotra, which is situated near the entrance of the Streights of Babelmandel. The Arabian or East shore of these streights, to which you approach within a few leagues, affords some very romantic views; consisting principally of immense mountains and high broken rocks, with the ruins of castles upon them; but there are few inhabited towns of any eminence until you have passed the Island of Perim, which with the cape on the eastern shore forms what the Arabs call Al Bab, or the Gate.

You will lose very little time by stopping at Mocha, which is the first seaport town on the east coast of the Red Sea within the gate, where you may procure all kinds of refreshments, particularly plenty of most excellent grapes. If your stock of provisions brought from Bombay should not be good, or be nearly exhausted; you may purchase here Abissynian sheep, which are exactly the same as those at the Cape of Good Hope, half a dozen of which will be sufficient to last you to Gedda, where you will be able to supply

ply yourself sufficiently with every thing necessary for the remainder of the voyage, both of a better quality and at a cheaper rate.

THE sheep at Mocha are very dear, being all brought over as an article of trade from the opposite shore of Abissynia: it appears however very extraordinary that the natives of the southern part of Arabia Felix who breed the finest horses, mules, and asses in the world, should neglect to breed sheep, which doubtless would thrive very well in the same pastures; especially as mutton and lamb, constitute a principal part of their own food.

THE view of Mocha from the Sea, will probably induce you to go on shore there; the houses, mosques, minarets, and even the walls of the place are white-washed, which at a distance gives an air of neatness to the town, but the inside of it you will find by no means correspond with its external appearance. The Governor will certainly send you an invitation by the Company's broker to come on shore; and if you accept of it, I am persuaded he will receive you with the utmost respect. We were introduced to him as common travellers going
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to Suez, on our way to Europe. On our landing, he caused us to be saluted with three guns, and the master of the port gave us coffee at the gate where we stopped a few minutes, to wait the arrival of the Governor's musick, and also a horse to be led before each of us: preceded in this manner, and attended by some persons of rank, we went to the Governor's house, which stands in the middle of a large square, and is built of rough stone, and unburnt brick: we were conducted up two pair of narrow broken stairs into his apartments, where he was seated in a kind of raised window-seat, to command a view of the sea; he rose when we entered the room, and saluted us very courteously in the manner of the Arabians, by placing his right hand on his left breast, and slightly inclining his head. After some general conversation about our intended journey, which continued about a quarter of an hour, pipes, sweetmeats and coffee were brought, and at last a censer to perfume the beard and clothes, the introduction of which, in all Eastern countries as you very well know, Sir, is intended as a hint for taking leave.

If you choose to sleep on shore, the broker will conduct you to a house belonging to the Company, built in the Arabian stile. A gentleman of the Bombay establishment, resided here two or three years as a supra-cargo, or agent, but the plan not answering either to him or his employers, he was recalled; and the Company's business has since in a great measure been transacted by the broker, who is a native of Guzerat, and speaks both English and Moors.

THERE are some few dangerous shoals between Mocha and Gedda, but nothing is to be apprehended from them at this season of the year, when the wind thus far is fair for going to the Northward. The town of Gedda is not particularly worth seeing, and therefore it is better not to go on shore there, for as it is only sixty miles distant from Mecca, a Christian of whatever rank, even although disguised in the country dress, would be liable to disagreeable taunts and insults from the mob, who almost think themselves contaminated with the breath of an unbeliever when so near their holy ground. Your interpreter, or any Mahomedan belonging

ing to your vessel, will be able to get you any thing you may want.

It is at Gedda that the disagreeable part of the voyage commences, for within a degree or two at most North of this place you generally lose the Monsoon, and meet the N. W. Wind, which as I have before observed prevails above ten months of the year in this part of the Red Sea. The Gedda pilots who make an annual voyage backwards and forwards to Suez, must of course be acquainted with all the ports, and also with the winds and currents and appearance of bad weather, &c.—It would therefore be prudent to take one of them to conduct you safely to Suez; the expence I believe would not exceed thirty pounds, and he may probably shorten your voyage at least a fortnight, or perhaps three weeks, besides lessening the danger.

It is much to be lamented, that the Captain of the Coventry Frigate, who lately went up the Red Sea, was inadvertently betrayed into a quarrel with the inhabitants of Cofire, a place about six degrees North of Gedda on the Western shore, and only one hundred and twenty miles from the banks of the Nile; a person if

he could with safety, would at all times choose to land there in preference to Suez, for the upper part of the Red Sea is the most tedious and dangerous part of the whole voyage, and besides Upper Egypt is full of monuments of antiquity. The ruins of the famous city of Thebes are within a very few miles of Ghinnah, where you go to from Cosire; and the banks of the Nile all the way from thence to Cairo, are covered with valuable remains of ruined cities, of which Dr. Pococke and Mr. Norden have published very learned and accurate accounts. It is said that not only the fort, and a number of houses were destroyed, but also that near six hundred of the inhabitants were killed. This account is probably very much exaggerated, but it is to be feared as a heavy fire was kept up on the town for upwards of two hours, many of the people must have fallen, and therefore at present it is unnecessary to examine more minutely into this route. I cannot however conclude this digression without expressing a hope that some atonement will be made to them for their losses, which whether they were attacked justly or not, is absolutely necessary before any European ought to venture to pass that way: by way of retaliation they will sacrifice

crifice every one they can get hold of, until some effectual means have been taken to pacify them.

THERE are many large towns on the East side of the Red Sea between Gedda and Suez, but as one Arabian town differs very little from another, after having seen Mocha, it would only be a loss of time to stop either at Yambo, or Tor; the former a place of great trade not far from Medina; and the latter a small port inhabited principally by pilots, where there are wells of tolerable good water. Tor is about five and thirty miles from Mount Sinai, near to which there is a convent of Greek Christians, said to have been founded by the Empress Helena, and dedicated to St. Catherine. If you have any curiosity to see this convent in all probability by writing to the monks, permission might be obtained from the Arabs to pass unmolested from Tor; but the Arabs and monks are not always on good terms: the rapacity of the former, the defenceless state of the latter, and the bigotry of both parties, occasion frequent disputes between them. The monks to guard against any surprise, constantly keep their doors shut, and when they have occasion to go out

out or come in, are drawn up in a basket to one of the windows of the convent, which are not less than forty feet high; but they seldom go out, having every article of provision for their table within their own walls, which are rather more than three quarters of a mile in extent.

THE voyage from * Tor to Suez may easily be performed in one day with a fair wind, but at any rate in five. Immediately as a ship appears in sight of Suez, a boat is sent on board to enquire the purpose of her coming: and the officer generally brings a present from the Governor consisting of a sheep or two, some small flat cakes of bread, a jar of water, and a small quantity of fruit, particularly oranges, which are juicy and of a very delicious flavour. As the messenger is a man of some rank, it is usual to salute him with three guns, and to entertain him with coffee, tobacco, sweetmeats, &c. When he returns on shore he will carry a letter for you to any person at Cairo, and it will be

* THE journey from Tor to Gaza is usually performed by the Arabs in five days, but it is not to be attempted by Europeans until we are on perfect good terms with the Sherreef of Mecca, and also with the Sheicks of the neighbouring desert.

forwarded by express the same evening, together with an account of your arrival to the principal Bey of Cairo, who is called Sheick Belled. It would not be prudent to write any secrets in the letter, but you may send instructions concerning your journey, and directions to have a vessel prepared for you at Alexandria. Your rank you may conceal or mention as you think proper. In my opinion supposing they have no reason to suspect you of carrying money or jewels to any great amount, it would be better to make yourself known. They may indeed expect presents accordingly, but then their attention to you will also be proportioned to your liberality to them; the difference of expence will be but trifling to a man of fortune, and the conveniences you will derive from being thought a person of high station will be very great. Lord A. Percy who was at Cairo in the year 1776, appeared there in his proper character and was treated with great politeness; nor if I was well informed, was there a great disproportion between the presents he gave, and those he received in return. A person who from necessity is obliged, or from disposition inclined to be a rigid œconomist, should not attempt to travel for curiosity or pleasure in the Levant, where the insolence
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and bigotry of the natives can only be got the better of by an appearance of wealth and liberality; should business oblige any one to pass that way who is not rich, or indifferent about expence; he must do the best he can, but he will do well to lay in a good stock of patience. The Governor of Suez is generally one of the Beys or Lords who compose the Aristocracy in Egypt, his rank of course entitles him to some attention. If you chuse to visit him it is only necessary to announce your intention the day before, and to fix the hour you will go on shore, and he will doubtless receive you with civility. But as the answer of your letter to Cairo will probably come back in four days at most, it will perhaps be better to wait until it arrives: for the Governor of Suez will not know what reception to give you until he hears from Cairo, and in the mean time, you may plead ill health for staying on board the ship.

THE most acceptable presents you can offer these people are short double barrelled silver mounted guns or pistols, if bell mouthed the better, china bowls, small French gold repeating watches, shauls, keemkaubs, or pieces of muslin. Any of these things given to the Governor

vernor of Suez, and some trifle of the same kind to the officer of the customs, who is a servant to the Grand Signior, and appointed by the Bashaw at Cairo, will ensure you great respect, and prevent your baggage from being searched and tumbled. A cautious man or an œconomist might object to a declaration of your rank, least your supposed wealth being made known to the Arabs, should tempt them to attack you in passing the desert; for my own part I do not think there is any danger of it, and indeed I am convinced there is more risque in subjecting yourself to be discovered by accident, than by publicly avowing your rank; and declaring that the purposes of your journey are curiosity and amusement. The present Duke de Lafoens, a Portuguese nobleman, was incognito at Alexandria nearly at the same time that Lord Percy appeared there in his proper character, and whilst the latter was allowed to ride on horseback, attended by guards, and received presents of horses and other things nearly equivalent to what he gave to the Beys; an order was issued to arrest the former, and it was with some difficulty that assisted by Mr. Baldwin he made his escape on
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board a ship lying at Alexandria*. The Sheick Belled has great authority over both the Turks and Arabs, and therefore protected by his guards, which probably he would send to escort you as soon as he is informed who you are, you would pass the Isthmus of Suez without any danger of being molested.

THE distance from Suez to Cairo is not more than seventy miles, some people have represented this little journey as very fatiguing and dangerous. I have already given my opinion of the danger, which with common discretion I must repeat, appears to me perfectly imaginary; and as to fatigue you may travel in a tukt-rawan or litter carried by camels or mules, the motion of which is not very uneasy: these machines are easily procured at Cairo, but it would be most adviseable for you to get one made of bamboo at Bombay, which would be both light and commodious, and serve you both as a travelling carriage and a tent. Should you not choose to be encumbered with a tukt-rawan, nor the Bey

* THE Spaniards and Portugeze carry on a kind of perpetual war against all Mahomedans; which was an additional reason for the Bey's intending to imprison the above-mentioned nobleman.

send you a horse, your agent will be able to procure you one at Cairo; but at the worst, you may borrow one of the Arabian guards who escort you from Suez, and these horses although not very handsome, are far from being unpleasant to ride; their paces are agreeable, and they are entirely free from vice.

WHEN the day of your departure from Suez is fixed, you should make a large provision of bread and ready dressed meat, fowls, mutton, &c. the season being cold, such things will keep good for three or four days, which is longer than you can well be on the road to Cairo. Your party will always halt at night, when you may dress any thing, if you prefer hot victuals to cold. There is no water on the desert, and therefore I would advise you to take a few dozen bottles in baskets from the ship; for that at Suez is rather brackish, and besides the Arabs carry theirs in skins, which are not always very clean.

NOTWITHSTANDING I think there is no danger of being molested by the Arabs, especially after having taken the precautions I have already mentioned; yet to put it past a doubt,

I would advise you when the passport comes from Cairo, to send your baggage forwards a couple of days before you; and when you have heard by express sent back to you that it is advanced about half way to Cairo; unincumbered with a string of camels, that move slowly and detain each other, you may then set out; and without travelling in the heat of the day, arrive yourself at most in eight and forty hours, allowing even a proper time for sleep and refreshment on the way. The Arabs, unless tempted by the hopes of plunder, or provoked by some act of hostility, are never guilty of violence to travellers of any denomination; therefore if your baggage passes unmolested, which must ever be the sole object of their attack, your person will be perfectly safe. This journey might be performed with great ease in eighteen or twenty hours, but then your baggage must be left behind; nor will you easily persuade your escort to keep up with you at this rate of travelling.

THE face of the country nearly resembles that of the great desert, being barren and destitute of trees, excepting a few of the Egyptian thorn, bearing a yellow flower. Within about twenty miles of Cairo, you meet with rocks amongst
which

which you may find a stone that resembles petrified wood beautifully variegated. I thought it sufficiently curious to be taken to Europe; and therefore carried a few small pieces with me, which were much admired at home.

It is necessary to get to Cairo before sun-set, at which time the gates are shut; for if you arrive five minutes after they are closed, you will be obliged to pass the night very uncomfortably in the suburbs amongst poor Arabian huts. But independent of this inconvenience it is very desirable to be near Cairo about the middle of the day to enjoy one of the most pleasing prospects I have ever seen; the beauties of which perhaps are somewhat heightened by coming after a succession of views every one more dreary and desolate than the other.

WHEN about three miles from Cairo, from the summit of an Hill you perceive that city situated in a fertile valley, and watered by the Nile, which meanders at the side of, and beyond its walls through a rich country as far as the eye can reach each way. To the S. W. is an immense high rock, at the foot of which and adjoining to the town is the citadel and palace;

lace; to the N. and N. W. the buildings cover a space of at least ten or twelve miles in circumference, amongst which are many magnificent tombs and mosques, whose domes and adjoining columns give a variety to this view, surpassing even that of the best built towns in the Catholic countries, where the churches add greatly to the beauty of their external appearance. The weather was rather hazy the day we were on this hill, or I should suppose we must also have perceived the Pyramids in the back ground of this charming landscape.

UPON entering the gates of the city you are not stopt and interrogated as you generally are coming into the towns on the continent of Europe, but your guides conduct you immediately to the house of your European correspondent; and he the next day will settle with the officers of the customs about your baggage. If they have sealed up your trunks at Suez, as they usually do, you should not suffer those seals to be taken off, or broken; for they may be glad of such a pretence for threatening you with the displeasure of government, in order to demand a considerable bribe for hush money: these artifices they will be likely enough to practise upon you if

if you afford them an opportunity, especially if you conceal your name and rank.

THE officers of the customs at Suez sealed up our trunks, and also our pacquets, and in this manner we carried them to Cairo; but as much rain fell whilst we were crossing the desert, we opened our trunks and boxes in order to dry our cloaths, but above all our papers; not however without having previously consulted a gentleman at Cairo, concerning the propriety of it. The next morning when the custom-house officers came to examine our baggage, being told of what we had done, they affected to believe we had broken the seals to conceal some prohibited goods, or at least to avoid paying the proper duties. We might perhaps have been able to pacify them by means of a little money, but our friend slighted their menaces, trusting he should get the Sheick Belled to interfere in our behalf; unfortunately for us he was again deceived, and in the end this little act of inadvertency cost us near three hundred pounds, together with no little anxiety, on account of being detained several days at Alexandria by the order of the Bashaw.

AFTER

AFTER your arrival at Cairo, I would advise you as well for health as for pleasure, almost immediately to repair to the hummam or bagnio. The Turkish manner of bathing is infinitely superior to any thing of the kind that is now known, or at least practised in any part of Europe, for even most of the inhabitants of Italy, once so famous for the magnificence of their baths, have long neglected this luxurious but salutary custom; as some of your friends may never have seen a Turkish bagnio, I shall attempt a description of that I used, which was one of the common sort, such as are to be met with in every city in the Levant.

THE first room is the undressing chamber which is lofty and spacious, about twenty-five feet long, and eighteen wide; near the wall is a kind of bench raised about two feet from the floor, and about seven or eight feet wide, so that after bathing a person may lie down upon it at full length; the windows are near the top of the room, as well that the wind may not blow upon the bathers when undressed, as for decency's sake. After undressing a servant gives you a napkin to wrap round you, and also a pair of slippers, and thus equipped you are conducted

conducted through a narrow passage to the steam room or bath, which is a large round building of about twenty-five feet diameter paved with marble, and in the centre of it is a circular bench where you are seated until you find yourself in a profuse perspiration; then your guide or attendant immediately begins rubbing you with his hand covered with a piece of coarse stuff called Kessay, and thereby peels off from the skin a kind of skurf, which cannot be moved by washing only. When he has rubbed you a few minutes he conducts you to a small room, where there is a hot bath about four feet deep and ten feet square, in which he will offer to wash you having his hand covered with a smoother stuff than before; or you may have some perfumed soap given you to wash yourself: After you have remained here as long as is agreeable you are conducted to another little side room, where you find two cocks of water the one hot and the other cold; which you may throw over you with a bason, the water being tempered to any degree of warmth, or perfectly cold if you prefer it. This being the last ablution, you are then covered with a napkin, and from hence again conducted to the undressing room, and placed upon the before-mentioned

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bench

bench with a carpet under you, and being extended upon it at full length, your attendant again offers to rub you dry with napkins. Some people have their nails cut, and also are shampoed*; the Turks generally smoak after bathing and the operation of shampooing; and in about an hour, a few minutes more or less, they commonly dress and go home.

IT is to be wished that some able physician would take the trouble of informing us what would be the probable effects of the use of the Turkish baths in England. If we were to judge by a comparison between the endemical disorders of Asia and Europe, we should suppose that the moderate use of the bath might render the gout

* SHAMPOING is variously performed in different countries. The most usual manner is simply pressing the hands and fingers upon the body and limbs, particularly near the extremities, so as to compress, but not to pinch them. This is the general manner practised by the servants of the Asiatics, but the barbers and the guides at the baths make also the joints and even the vertebrae of the back crack by a sudden jerk, which to people unaccustomed to it in their youth, is rather a painful sensation. The Chinese and Malay barbers particularly excel in this art, which however is very well known, and generally practised all over Asia, where it is thought a necessary substitute for exercise during the hot weather.

and rheumatism, as uncommon in this part of the world, as they are in the other.

VERY few Asiatics are afflicted with these complaints, although they eat their meat very highly seasoned with spices, and stewed in clarified butter; seldom take any exercise, and even many of them secretly indulge in other excesses, which with us are supposed to cause the gout. Why then may we not allow some degree of efficacy in warm baths and shampooing, in throwing off those humours, which not being removed, occasion the gout and other chronic disorders amongst us; but my knowledge of these matters being very superficial, I only humbly suggest these ideas to the faculty for their consideration and opinion: thus much however I can pretend to say from my own experience, that the warm bath is very refreshing after undergoing violent fatigue. In coming from Suez to Cairo, a journey of seventy miles, I was exposed to very bad weather, for two days and two nights, with no tent or covering but a cloak. On my arrival at my journey's end very much harassed with fatigue, and benumbed with cold I went into a warm bath, in which having remained about half an hour I was perfectly reco-

vered, and never in my life was in better spirits, or more able to have pursued my journey*.

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* In the last voyage of Captain Cooke which has been published since this letter was written are the following observations on the custom of shampoing, which with the remarks I have taken the liberty of adding, I am in hopes will amuse the curious reader, and be of service to valetudinarians. Mr. Anderson, in the account of his visit to the King of the island of Tongataboo, vol. i. page 323, Cooke's voyage, observes, "when supper was over, abundance of cloth was brought for us to sleep on; but we were a good deal disturbed by a singular instance of luxury, in which their principal men indulge themselves; that of being beaten while they were asleep. Two women sat by Tuttafaihié, and performed this operation, which is called tooge tooge, by beating briskly on his body and legs with both fists as on a drum, till he fell asleep; when once the person is asleep, they abate a little in the strength and quickness of the beating, but resume it if they observe any appearance of his awaking. In the morning we found, that Tuttafaihié's women relieved each other, and went to sleep by turns. In any other country, it would be supposed, that such a practice would put an end to all rest, but here it certainly acts as an opiate, and is a strong proof of what habit may effect." Captain Cooke in the second volume, page 63, informs us, that being by indisposition prevented going to a marai in Attaharoo, he sent Mr. King and Omai, and returned on board his ship attended by Otoo's mother, his three sisters, and eight more women. To use the Captain's own words, he adds, "at first I thought this numerous train of females came into my boat with no other view than to get a passage to Matavia, but when they arrived at the ship they told me they intended passing the night on board, for the express purpose of undertaking the cure of
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THE day of your arrival at Cairo you must determine whether or not you will visit the Sheik

“ the disorder I complained of; which was a pain of the rheumatic kind, extending from the hip to the foot. I accepted the friendly offer, had a bed spread for them upon the cabin floor and submitted myself to their directions. I was desired to lay myself down amongst them. Then as many as could get round me, *began to squeeze me with both hands from head to foot*, but more particularly on the parts where the pain was lodged, till they made my bones crack, and my flesh became a perfect mummy. In short after undergoing this discipline about a quarter of an hour, I was glad to get away from them, however the operation gave me immediate relief, which encouraged me to submit to another rubbing down before I went to bed; and it was so effectual, that I found myself pretty easy all the night after. My female physicians repeated their prescriptions the next morning before they went ashore, and again in the evening when they returned on board, after which I found the pain entirely removed, and the cure being perfected, they took their leave of me the following morning. This they call *romee*; an operation, which in my opinion far exceeds the flesh brush, or any thing of the kind that we may use externally, it is universally practised amongst the islanders, being sometimes performed by the men, but more generally by the women. If at any time one appears languid and tired, and sits down by any of them, they immediately begin to practise the *romee* upon one's legs, and I have always found it to have an exceeding good effect.

In these two extracts taken from the voyage of Captain Cooke lately published, every person who has been in India will recognize in an instant the operation of shampoing, which, as I have already

Sheick Belled, and the Bashaw, which will I suppose in a great measure depend upon their own

already said in this work*, is universally practised all over the East. It is with great pleasure I avail myself of the testimony of two such respectable witnesses, to shew the existence of this custom, and also to prove its wonderful efficacy. The manner described by Mr. Anderson is practised in India as it is in Tongataboo, with this small difference, that the shampoers do not strike violently with the fists, but gently with the edge of the hands; nor I confess does it appear extraordinary to me that a person exhausted with fatigue, should thereby be lulled to rest. It might equally be thought that noise and motion would keep children awake, but we know the reverse to be true, for they are always sung and rocked to sleep, and even sometimes for want of a cradle the nurses strike them gently on the back with their open hands, which produces the same effect. We may suppose the King of Tongataboo had long been used to this indulgence, and therefore like a person accustomed to opiates, he required a strong dose; such a one as would disturb, and even hurt an European. The operation described by Captain Cooke is the most common kind of shampooing, and is that which is preferred by Europeans in the East, who seldom have recourse to any thing of that nature, excepting in cases of excessive fatigue, or real indisposition. If it were necessary, many persons now in England could vouch for the efficacy of shampooing, especially in relieving rheumatic or gouty pains; but what farther testimony can be necessary after the proof given us by a man exempt from the errors and fancies of weak minds, and whose veracity it is impossible to suspect. Possessed of such an incontestible proof of the fact, it were to be wished that a gentleman of Mr. Anderson's

* Vide supra.

own behaviour, or rather perhaps upon the character in which you choose to appear. If you travel incognito there will be no occasion for you to go near them; but in that case you must submit to the mortification of riding about on a jack ass, as all Christians do excepting those who have express permission to use a horse: but as Lord A. Percy, and also Lord

professional knowledge, and philosophical turn of mind, had upon the spot afforded this matter more particular consideration: as a medical man he probably would have been able to explain in what manner the operation of shampong produced the wonderful effects above described; and his remarks being introduced into a work so universally read and admired, would of course have been no less universally known.

THE philosopher who is continually in search of materials for forming an ingenious hypothesis, will naturally catch at this similitude of customs between the natives of the islands in the Pacific Ocean, and those of the great Eastern continent, to prove that the former are certainly descended from the latter. Without launching out into amusing conjectures and disquisitions, in which I have not at present leisure to indulge myself; I shall only beg leave to observe, that if another equipment for discoveries should take place, this curious point might in a great measure be ascertained, by sending linguists in the ships, who are acquainted with the Arabic, Malay, Chinese, and Russian languages. By carefully following the course these different languages have taken, we may trace them to the various channels into which they have flowed, and consequently by this, one of the surest guides, at length trace the people themselves to the fountain head from whence they sprung.

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Charlemont before him were both allowed horses, your agent no doubt will be able to procure you the same indulgence; but then as I have already observed, presents of some value will be necessary both to the Sheick Belled, and the Bashaw. We were informed it was not necessary to visit the Bashaw, whose authority in the country they told us was merely nominal; but this to our cost I have already said we found to be a mistake: for had we paid proper attention to him, or in other words had we waited upon him, and given him a trifling present; the affair of opening the pacquets would have been passed over in silence. To guard you against the same inconveniences that we experienced through ignorance of the nature of the Egyptian government, I shall attempt to give you a general idea of it,

EGYPT is divided into twenty-four provinces, each of which is governed by a Sangiack or Bey: the major part of these twenty-four Beys reside at Cairo, where always once a week, and sometimes oftener they set in council, called by them the Divan: the Sheick Belled is the president of the council, and executive member of the government; his office is somewhat similar

lar to that of the Doge of Venice, with rather more authority, but that indeed depends upon a variety of circumstances, such as whether he is a man of great abilities and firmness himself; whether he is supported by a large party amongst his colleagues; and whether or not he is on good terms with the Bashaw. When I was at Cairo the Sheick Belled was rather a weak man, and owed his safety to the mutual jealousy of two rival Beys nearly of equal power, who both aspired to his place. The Bashaw is sent from the Porte as Viceroy on the part of the Grand Signior; if he can contrive to sow sedition amongst the Beys, and secretly attach himself to the strongest party, whilst he seems to observe a strict neutrality, he sometimes acquires more influence than even the Sheick Belled himself; but then he must act with great care and circumspection, for should his intrigues be discovered, and the adverse party to his prevail, he certainly will be obliged to quit the country.

THE manner of his dismissal is characteristic of the gloomy and arbitrary proceedings of this oriental republic. The Beys having come to a resolution of sending him away, dispatch a

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Carracoulouck from the Divan or council to his house, who approaches the place where the Bashaw is seated, and having silently turned up the corner of the carpet, abruptly goes away; he is however obliged to carry an order with him, which he puts into his bosom, leaving out a corner of it so as to be plainly perceived. The name Carracoulouck signifies a black messenger, for he is dressed in black, with a sort of bonnet on his head, of the same colour.

THE Bashaw never pretends to oppose this mandate or rather hint from the Divan, knowing that resistance would very probably cost him his life. He therefore as soon as possible retires quietly to Boulako, situated about two miles and a half to the westward of Cairo; or when he suspects a violent degree of resentment against him, he proceeds to Rosetto, and from thence sails in the first vessel to Cyprus, where he remains until he hears from Constantinople.

THE Divan or council of the Beys to keep up appearances with the Porte dispatch a special messenger to Constantinople complaining of the misconduct of the Bashaw; but the Grand Signior conscious of his inability to support his officer,

officer, takes no other notice of his dismissal than in sending another Bashaw to Cairo, and often imposing a fine on the one who has been disgraced. Such, Sir, is the general outline of this Government, and as it is impossible for you during your short stay in Egypt, to discover the secret intrigues of the state, so as to judge which party predominates, you will perhaps think it most prudent to be equally attentive to both. On a future occasion when possessed of full information, and more leisure, I shall probably trouble you with some further observations on this extraordinary government, but I shall conclude the present account with a curious trait of their policy, which has no precedent that I know of in any other country whatever.

THE children of the Beys cannot inherit either the rank or the property of their fathers, nor even be appointed to any office which it is deemed proper for a Bey to hold. It is true the Divan after the death of a Bey, appropriates a part of his property to the maintenance of his family, but the remainder goes to his casheef or lieutenant, who generally succeeds both to his office and estate. These casheefs are Georgian or Circassian slaves, whom the Bey has bought

and adopted when young, and of course educated with great care and tenderness, with a view of leaving them grateful guardians to their orphan children. This law was doubtless suggested to them by their dislike to monarchy and predilection for a republic; but surely it first took place during the administration of some childless person, or the voice of nature would have suppressed the dictates of policy.

THE city of Cairo and its environs as you well know are full of curiosities, but nothing attracted my attention so much as the infinite variety of people in the public streets, and yet I could discover nothing like an original national character among them. The present Egyptians are an heterogeneous mixture of all nations, and having unfortunately retained only the worst features both of the minds and persons of their ancestors, they are in my opinion become the most disagreeable and contemptible nation on earth, bearing no more resemblance to the former Egyptians, than the present ruins do, to their once magnificent buildings.

WHEN you have sufficiently gratified your curiosity at Cairo you may proceed from thence
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to Alexandria by land; but you will go with much greater ease, expedition, and safety, as far as Rosetto by water. There are two sorts of boats on the Nile, the one resembling a Bengal budgerow or barge, and the other somewhat like a Moor punkey*, but the generality of Egyptian boats are inferior to those of Bengal, both with respect to elegance and accommodation. I took one at Cairo of eighteen oars, in which I arrived at Rosetto in thirty hours, about two-thirds of the men constantly rowing whilst the others slept: the banks of the river are covered with well inhabited towns and villages, but as the natives of this part of the country bear not the best of characters, and are particularly averse to Europeans, it will not be prudent to trust yourself among them. It is even thought necessary at night, to carry a light in a paper lantern, under the tilt or deck of the boat, to shew that you are Europeans, and alert; or these pirates will sometimes attack you in hopes of

* A Bengal budgerow resembles the barges of the city companies; a Moor punkey is a long narrow boat to row with ten or twenty oars; the former is used for travelling up and down the great rivers in Bengal, and the provinces to the north of it; the latter is seldom used but in coming down with the current, with the assistance of which, when the river is full, they are supposed to go at the rate of ten or twelve miles an hour.

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plunder. Should you come to an anchor you must also be watchful that they do not swim off from the shore, and puller something out of the boat, at which they are very expert.

THE objections against going all the way to Alexandria by water, is the surf at the Bogaz or mouth of the river at Rosetto, which renders this part of the voyage rather dangerous. It will therefore be better to go on shore at Rosetto, and from thence proceed by land, the distance is about thirty-three miles. Christians are allowed to make this journey upon camels or mules, and even upon horses if they will go to the expence of hiring them. If you set out from Rosetto about eight o'clock in the evening, you may arrive at Alexandria at day break, which in a moonlight night is the most agreeable manner of travelling; for you would thereby avoid the heat of the sun, which in the middle of the day even in the winter season is very unpleasant.

IN advising you to travel by night from Rosetto to Alexandria, I do not mean that you should depart from Rosetto the night of your arrival, for if you can stay there you will find
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sufficient amusement for a week at least; not that Rosetto itself I believe abounds with antiquities, but there are many modern buildings, in and near the city very well worth seeing. It is a place much respected by the Mahomedans, who say if Mecca was to be taken from them, that the pilgrims who now go thither, would in future visit Rashid, i. e. Rosetto; which opinion is probably founded on a tradition that one of Mahomed's nearest relations, formerly lived, and is now buried at a mosque which is situated at the North part of the suburbs. The length of this city is near two miles but it is not more than half a mile broad. In the environs of it are many country houses belonging to Christian merchants whose gardens abound with exceeding fine Oranges, and many of the choicest fruits of the East: but what contributes most to make it an agreeable residence to them, is the liberality and politeness of the Mahomedan inhabitants, who notwithstanding the reputed sanctity of the place, are particularly civil to the Christians; whereas at Damietta, which is situated only on the opposite, or pelusian side of the Delta, an European cannot appear without a certainty of being insulted. For this violent antipathy no other reason can be assigned, but that

that, during the crusades, considerable detachments of the Christian armies used to land there, and the accounts of the ravages they committed being transmitted to posterity, has fixed a deep rooted resentment in the minds of the Damietans; that will never be eradicated as long as those stories are remembered.

EUROPEAN travellers in general complain of the ill treatment they meet with in all the countries of the Levant, but particularly when they are examining the ruins of ancient cities: the jealousy shewn by the Mahomedans on these occasions is always imputed to religious prejudices, or the want of urbanity; but I shall beg leave to account for it in another manner.

It is generally believed by them that all Europeans are deeply versed in the abstruse and occult sciences, which makes them consider us in the same light, as the vulgar and ignorant in Europe consider our fortune tellers or conjurors; that is with a kind of admiration, mixed with fear, and detestation. Added to this prejudice, they are also thoroughly persuaded from the stories they daily hear repeated out of the Arabian Nights Entertainments, that there are
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many subterraneous palaces in their country full of pearls and diamonds, in search of which they suppose the Europeans are come to Egypt: we always acknowledge that we are looking after curiosities, which serves to confirm them in their error; for as they have not the most distant idea of what we mean by curiosities, they naturally conclude we are looking for the pearls and diamonds supposed to be concealed in those same palaces; which opinion also is strongly corroborated by the zeal and anxiety shewn by our antiquarians in their researches.

As the mean heat of a country is said to be nearly ascertained by the mean heat of the springs; so are the genius and character of a nation discovered by perusing their favorite books; for which reason I advise you by all means to peruse these Arabian Nights Entertainments before you set out on your journey. Believe me Sir! they contain much curious and useful information. They are by many people erroneously supposed to be a spurious production, and are therefore slighted in a manner they do not deserve. They were written as I have already hinted by an Arabian, and are universally read, and admired throughout Asia

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by all ranks of men, both old and young: considered therefore as an original work; descriptive as they are, of the manners and customs of the East in general, and also of the genius and character of the Arabians in particular; they surely must be thought to merit the attention of the curious: nor are they in my opinion entirely destitute of merit in other respects, for although the extravagance of some of the stories is carried too far, yet on the whole one cannot help admiring the fancy and invention of the author, in striking out such a variety of pleasing incidents: pleasing I call them, because they have frequently afforded me much amusement, nor do I envy any man his feelings, who is above being pleased with them; but before any person positively decides upon the merit of these books, he should be eye witness of the effect they produce on those who best understand them. I have more than once seen the Arabians on the desert setting round a fire listening to these stories with such attention and pleasure, as totally to forget the fatigue and hardship with which an instant before they were entirely overcome. In short Sir! not to dwell any longer on this subject, they are in the same estimation all over Asia, that the adventures

ventures of Don Quixote are in Spain; and I am persuaded no man of any genius or taste, would think of making the tour of that country, without previously reading the works of Cervantes.

ABOUT half way between Rosetto and Alexandria you come to a place called Madhia, where at flood tide you must cross over in a ferry boat, but at the ebb you easily pass over on horseback: near the ferry is a serai or resting place where you can sleep, but should it be necessary for you to pass a night on the road, you had better go to the town of Aboukeer, which is situated on the sea coast, about a mile and a half to the N. W. of the ferry, for the serai is open to the weather, and also extremely dirty: from Aboukeer, or the ferry, to Alexandria is about seventeen miles.

WITH respect to a description of Alexandria and its environs, I shall beg leave as before to refer you to Pococke, Norden and Neibuhr, &c. taking the liberty however in some few points to differ from them; and likewise to add some observations that I have not met with in

either of the abovementioned writers, concerning the present and also the former state of Egypt.

THE Mole of about one thousand yards in length which was built to form a communication with the island of Pharos does not appear to me to have been taken sufficient notice of by any person. As Alexandria was built with a view to commerce, this mole, notwithstanding some appearances of gothic work in the arches, is probably coeval with the foundation of the city. Of what excellent materials then must it have been originally composed to have resisted the beating of the wind and waves for near two thousand years! Dr. Pococke with great reason admires the arched cisterns under the houses for the reception of the water of the Nile, of which however there are not more than five or six remaining at this time; but in my opinion the same labour and expence would have been better bestowed in lining the canal from the Nile to Alexandria, with the same durable materials as those of the Mole; by means of which the city to the end of time would have been amply supplied with water; and goods with great ease have been transported to it, from all parts of Egypt. For want of being lined the banks of the Calisch
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or canal are now fallen in, which is one of the principal causes of the decline of the trade, and of course of the ruin of the city.

It has long been a favourite opinion amongst the learned, both ancients and moderns, that the Egyptians were acquainted with the arts and sciences, whilst all the other people were in a state of ignorance. We are told they discovered geometry in making the divisions of land, after the annual overflowing of the Nile; that the clearness of their atmosphere enabled them to make astronomical observations sooner than other people; and that the fertility of their country gave rise to trade, by enabling them to supply all their neighbours with corn and other necessaries of life. These arguments are however more specious than true, for if we owe the discovery of geometry to the overflowing of the Nile, of astronomy to the clearness of the atmosphere, and of trade to the fertility of the soil; in that part of Hindostan which is within the tropic, there are still larger rivers which overflow annually, a clearer sky, and a more fertile soil. The Nile only once a year affords a supply of water to the countries on its banks, and the small quantity of rain that falls there at other

other times, does not furnish moisture enough to keep up the smallest degree of vegetation. Whereas the rivers in Hindostan, particularly those on the coast of Choromandel, are regularly filled with water twice a year, first from the rains which fall in June, July and August, in the Balagat mountains, where the sources of those rivers lie; and afterwards from the N. E. monsoon or rainy season, which continues on the Choromandel coast during the months of October, November, and December. With respect to the goodness of the climate, or the clearness of the atmosphere for the purposes of astronomy, there can be no comparison between Egypt and Hindostan; for at night during the greater part of the year in Hindostan there is scarcely a cloud to be seen in the sky, and the air especially in the southern countries is never disagreeably cold; so that an astronomer would have every opportunity and inducement to pursue his studies in the open air: whereas, in Egypt the sky is often cloudy, and the air so cold as to make it unpleasant to be out of doors after sun-set.

THE Indians had also evidently the advantage of the Egyptians with respect to cloathing, which

which is one of the necessaries, or at least one of the comforts of life ; for if we suppose men first cloathed themselves in the skins of animals, India abounds in vast forests or extensive fertile plains, where animals of all kind both savage and tame, must have bred infinitely faster than in the barren deserts of upper Egypt ; but in a hot country the natives would naturally prefer garments made of woven cotton. Now, the cotton shrub is very rare in Egypt, even at this time, and it is well known to have grown in India, and to have been fabricated into cloth, ever since we have had any acquaintance with that country. From these premises, therefore, it is natural to suppose, that the Indians in the early ages were much more likely to supply the Egyptians with necessaries and comforts of life, than to be supplied by them ; that the Indians would at least have as much occasion for geometry as the Egyptians ; and that they had at least equal if not greater advantages for pursuing the study of astronomy. Thus far however all is but conjecture, for we have no tradition or history of those times, when either the Egyptians or the Indians were in an uncivilized state ; but if we pursue the subject we shall find very evident proofs that when an intercourse
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did take place between them; that the Egyptians received from Hindostan all those articles of luxury, which the Greeks and Romans purchased again from them. It would be both tedious and unnecessary to enumerate all these, I shall therefore content myself with particularizing silk, spices, pearls, diamonds, and other precious stones.

It was formerly supposed that most of these articles came from Arabia Felix, but this error has long since been exploded. It is now well known they were none of them the produce of Arabia, but were brought thither by vessels from India, and from thence were carried up the Red Sea, with other productions of that country.

It may perhaps be objected, that the Egyptians and the Arabians are generally supposed to have known the art of navigation before the Indians, and of course that although India may produce spices, &c. the Egyptians and Arabians went thither to fetch them. History being entirely silent on this subject we can only endeavour to ascertain this matter, by stating the arguments on both sides the question.

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IN all probability before any intercourse subsisted between the Indians and Egyptians, both people knew how to construct small boats or rather rafts for crossing deep rivers, and even for transporting themselves by water from one place to another in the same country; but at the same time it must be allowed that the Indians had much better materials for building both small and large boats than either the Egyptians, or even the Arabians; and the boats of the present day plainly shew in what manner the Indians made use of these materials. The planks are made of a light boyant pliant wood, sewed together with coir or the rind of the cocoa nut made into a kind of small cord; all the larger ropes are made of the same materials, and even the oars themselves are formed of one strait pole with a piece of flat board tied upon it with a coir string to form the blade of the oar. The present large country boats of forty and fifty tons, especially those belonging to the Lacidivi and Maldivi islands are still built in the same manner, with no other difference than being on a larger scale: with these in a fair season they make voyages many degrees out of sight of land; yet nothing of the kind not even the first essays of the art could have

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been more rude than these now are. It is highly probable therefore that as soon as they knew the latitude of the streights of Babel-mandel, and were furnished with instruments for making observations, they ventured to pass over from the Malabar coast to that of Arabia.

I MAY perhaps be asked when and how it was they became acquainted with the latitude of these streights? that is a difficulty I believe no person can solve any more than myself, but it is possible that there was once a chain of islands nearly in sight of each other, from the Malabar coast to that of Arabia, most of which may have been swallowed up in some great convulsion of nature, so as to leave no remains excepting the island of Socotra and those of Laccidivi and Maldivi: but even supposing no such islands to have existed, still surely as the Indians had good materials for building vessels, and a sea to sail upon that is governed by regular currents and periodical winds, neither of which the Egyptians had; we may rather suppose that the produce of Hindostan was carried to Egypt by the Indians, than that it was fetched away from thence by the Egyptians.

If the Indians required nothing from the Egyptians either of the necessaries or comforts of life; if the Egyptians got spices and other articles of luxury from India; and if the natives of India were first acquainted with the science of astronomy and the arts of navigation, all of which I think are probable: it is but reasonable to suppose that the arts and sciences were first known in India, and from thence were brought up the Red Sea to Egypt.

I AM well aware that the advocates for Egypt will call upon me to produce any remains of antiquity in India so ancient as the Pyramids. To these gentlemen I shall oppose one impossibility to another, by asking them to trace back the building of Gour, which seven hundred and thirty years before Christ was the capital of Bengal; or of the better known Palibothra of the ancients, which was the capital of India, long before Alexander's time. As a further proof that the natives of Hindostan were in an advanced state of civilization near two thousand years ago, I shall also beg leave to observe that a plate of copper was lately dug up at Mongheer, engraved with Shanscrit characters which contains a conveyance or grant of

land from Bickeram Geet Raja of Bengal to one of his subjects, and dated near one hundred years before the Christian æra. To enter into a long detail of reasoning upon this plate cannot be necessary; I am persuaded Sir, you will in an instant conceive how long the arts and sciences must have been known in Hindostan, before these regular divisions of land took place, and the grants of them were engraved on copper in such characters as would not disgrace our most skilful artists even at this time.

THE ingenious Mr. Halhed in the preface of his Bengal grammar, informs us that the Raja of Kishnagur, who he says, is by far the most learned and able antiquary, that Bengal has produced within this century, positively affirms that he has in his own possession Shanscrit books, which give an account of a communication formerly subsisting between India and Egypt, wherein the Egyptians are constantly described as disciples, and not as instructors of the Indians; and as seeking that liberal education, and those sciences in Hindostan, which none of their own countrymen had sufficient knowledge to impart. This evidence of the learned Raja has great weight with me, especially

cially as there are books now extant in Bengal, written in the Shanscrit language, which are copies of others said by the Bramins to be dated more than two thousand two hundred years before the Christian æra. This fact admitted, and I firmly believe it very possible to be proved, the Egyptians must appear a modern people in comparison with the natives of Hindostan; for when the former were advanced no further in literature, than the constructing of hieroglyphicks, the latter were masters of books written in a language which had then attained a great degree of perfection.

BUT this is not all that may be urged in favour of the claims of the Indians, some further proofs will appear upon examining the general state of commerce at that time all over the globe. In Europe it was very trifling, of America we were totally ignorant; and only a corner of Africa was known; consequently whatever commerce then existed must have come from Asia. About this time there was a chain, or if I may be allowed the expression, a street of magnificent cities from Coptos to Alexandria, which continued in a flourishing state, notwithstanding the Egyptian empire frequently changed its

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Sovereign. Nor from any information I am master of, can I find those cities began to decline until the followers of Mahomed transferred the India trade from upper Egypt to the opposite coast of the Red Sea; then, and not before, Upper Egypt became what it still continues to be, an uninhabited desert. If these facts be true, and I believe they will not be disputed; we may reasonably infer from them, that these cities of Upper Egypt not only existed by the support they derived from that trade; but also that they owed their original existence to it. Nor is it Egypt only that has experienced these effects of the India trade; whatever nation has possessed the largest share of it, has invariably for the time enjoyed also the largest portion of wealth and power; and when deprived of it, sunk again almost into their original obscurity.

WHEN the folly of the crusades was over, and the remembrance of the injuries sustained on both sides in some measure mutually forgotten, the Mahomedans intent only on conquest and spreading the doctrines of their prophet, allowed the Christians to carry on the trade between Europe and the Levant, which consisted principally in transporting the India goods from the
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ports of Syria, Palestine, and Egypt, to those of Italy. It is well known that the Venetians, for a long time engrossed the greater part of this trade, and whilst they enjoyed it were the richest, and most powerful people in Europe; we may also trace it from Venice to the Hans towns by the cities to which it gave rise in Germany. But at length the Portuguese discovered the passage round the Cape of Good Hope, which carried a part of the India trade into another channel; immediately Venice declined, and Portugal became one of the greatest nations in Europe. They however enjoyed their superiority but a short time, for the enterprising and industrious natives of Holland found their way round the Cape of Good Hope, and very soon established themselves in India on the ruin of the Portuguese. Whilst the riches of India flowed into Holland, the Dutch disputed the empire of the seas with the united fleets of England and France. At last we obtained a larger portion of this trade than ever was enjoyed by any nation whatever, excepting the Egyptians, and every person knows at that period Great Britain gave law to all Europe. Nor does it require the gift of prophecy to be able to foretell, that deprived of this source of wealth we shall

shall sink almost as low in the political scale of Europe, as either Holland, Portugal, Venice, or even Egypt itself. In short, to sum up the whole of this argument in a few words. If the arts and sciences conducted by commerce can be traced back from the west of Europe to Italy, from thence to Greece, and so on eastward to Egypt: if India possessed many natural advantages over Egypt for the production of every article of trade, and also for the discovery and improvement of every branch of the mathematics: and above all, if we have every reason to suppose that the Shanscrit or original Indian language had acquired a great degree of perfection, and was written with great regularity, when the Egyptians were only acquainted with the hieroglyphicks: it is but reasonable to conclude, that the arts and sciences came by the means of commerce from India to Egypt, in the same manner, as they afterwards came from Egypt to Europe. From the west part of Europe they have passed over to America, where probably they will still continue to pursue the same course, until they have finished their circuit round the globe, by opening a communication between the two great continents from the west of America, to the East coasts of Asia. The further
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consideration of this subject would lead me into a long train of political reflections, I shall therefore quit it, and return to what relates to Egypt.

THERE are great disputes amongst the moderns concerning the exact situation of the ancient city of Berenice, on the west coast of the Red Sea; and also whether or not, there was a navigable canal between that city and Coptos, on the banks of the Nile. If you have leisure to go into Upper Egypt, or can land at Cosire, you perhaps will be glad to know what has been already said on this subject, and also to receive any information I can afford you, concerning that or any other navigable canal between the Red Sea and the Nile.

BOTH ancient and modern geographers describe the remains of a canal from Suez, to a small lake of brackish water about thirty miles to the north of that place; and from thence to a canal said to have been dug by the order of the Emperor Trajan, which goes from that lake into the Nile a few miles below the city of Cairo: for my own part, I must acknowledge, I saw nothing like a canal near Suez, excepting

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a small water course, many of which are to be seen both in the great and little desert. With respect to that said to have been cut between Berenice and Coptos in the latitude of twenty-six in Upper Egypt, I think there is reason to doubt its existence. Mr. D'Anville seems to think that a road only was made from the Nile to the Red Sea, and that the mistake arose from there being a navigable canal between Coptos and the Nile, from which it was distant only seven miles. But this great geographer not having entered so minutely into this subject, as perhaps you may think it deserves; I shall offer a few words to your consideration in confirmation of his opinion.

THOSE writers who have placed a navigable canal, or a road between the Nile and the Red Sea from modern Ghinna to Cosire; have probably guessed that it must have been in that situation, because it is the shortest distance from the sea to the river, being in a strait line at most one hundred and twenty miles. But admitting any such canal to have existed in Upper Egypt, of which there are no traces to be found; it is not very likely it should be cut in that direction; for Cosire being almost three degrees beyond the
Tropic,

Tropic, the voyage from the Tropic to Cosire, would to the ancients in their ill-constructed vessels have been practicable during only the continuance of the Khumseen wind, which as I have before observed blows for about fifty days in the year: surely then had the Egyptians attempted to make such a navigable canal, they would have made it further to the southward, near the Tropic, where it would have been serviceable to them for six months in the year; that is, somewhere near to the spot where Ptolemy and others have placed the ancient city of Berenice. Dr. Pococke, who does not seem to have adverted to this circumstance of the N. W. wind prevailing so long below Cosire; thinks that Ptolemy is mistaken in his latitude of Berenice, because Strabo who had visited Upper Egypt, places Berenice near Coptos; the word near however being only a relative term, may equally mean one hundred, or two hundred and fifty-eight miles; and therefore cannot be deemed any proof that Berenice should have been exactly in the same parallel of latitude with Coptos. The situation of Coptos is not disputed; and as Ptolemy, and many of the most respectable geographers have made the distance from thence to Berenice near two hundred and fifty-eight miles,

miles, most persons perhaps, will be of opinion that Berenice was situated in what is called Foul Bay, to the southward of Cape Nose, and within a few miles of the Tropic. Ptolemy Philadelphus made a road from the one city to the other, in which he caused wells to be dug, and what would now in the East be called Caravansaries to be erected; but of which I have been informed no vestiges are now visible. This road has also by some people been mistaken for a canal, but I shall offer some objections to your consideration against the probability of any canal having been made between this part of the Nile, and the Red Sea.

THE canal must have been supplied with water either from the river, or from the sea. If from the river, such a discharge from that body of water must even in the best season have deprived Lower Egypt of too large a quantity of this only source of its fertility: and in a dry season, which happens at least every fourth or fifth year, must have occasioned a famine; for as I have before mentioned the rain never falls there in sufficient abundance to keep up the smallest degree of vegetation.

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If the canal was to be supplied with water from the Red Sea, an extraordinary spring tide, or a storm might have broken down the locks, and thereby overflowed Lower Egypt, so as to render it a mere salt-water lake : but at least the mixture of the salt with the fresh water would have made it unfit for the purposes of husbandry, and besides the major part of the inhabitants have no other fresh water than what comes from the Nile. If then the Egyptians could not cut a canal without ruining their country, or depriving themselves of a requisite supply of water for domestic uses, we may reasonably conclude they never would have made the attempt and thereby expatriated themselves. Thus Sir! having made all the observations on Egypt that occur to me, or at least such as will come within the narrow compass of a letter; I shall next consider what measures you must take to proceed from Alexandria to Europe.

THE time and manner of your departure from Alexandria must entirely depend upon the plan which you have laid down; that is, whether you intend to go directly to England; or whether you propose to travel leisurely; and make a tour
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of pleasure : You will hardly think of going to Europe all the way by land through Palestine, Syria, Asia Minor, &c. I shall therefore mention what steps you are to take in going by sea.

YOUR agent will easily procure you a vessel on freight to carry you to any of the ports in Europe, which you may have on reasonable terms if you will allow them also to put a cargo on board ; and it will be no inconvenience to you, provided you specify the particular port to which you are bound ; and the vessel is afterwards put under your orders.

OF all the nations that frequent this port, I should advise you to employ Ragusians. Their vessels are strong and well-found ; their seamen are sober, cleanly, and civil ; and their republic is generally at peace with all the different states of Barbary. Next to these in time of peace, I should prefer the French, who carry on a considerable trade here, and employ in it very large ships ; there are but very few English vessels, and these are generally small and in bad condition.

If you are in haste to get home, it is best to freight the ship for two months to carry you to any port in the Adriatic or the Mediterranean, and then it will be in your own power to choose one of those places where the quarantine is short, viz. Malta, Marseilles, Ragusa, or Trieste : at all these ports with a *pattenta netta*, or clean bill of health, the confinement is only eighteen days. I would advise you to steer for Malta ; but if the wind comes to the westward after you have passed Candia, and before you see Malta, you should then attempt to pass by the Pharo Messina in the way to Marseilles, or else to enter the Adriatic and sail for Trieste. When you are advanced up the Adriatic, should the wind come round to the N. W. the port of Ragusa will be under your lee ; from whence after performing quarantine, you may land in any part of Italy. Before you embark at Alexandria, the Consul who acts as your agent, at the same time he dispatches the ship, gives you a separate certificate or bill of health for yourself. If you propose making a voyage of pleasure without being restricted in time, and can depart from Alexandria in the month of February, you will of course first visit the Archipelago ; where in the different islands you will find

find an inexhaustible fund of amusement. It will be very easy in the course of four months to go to Constantinople, calling in the way at all the places on the East side of the Archipelago that are worth seeing; and afterwards when you are going to Italy, to visit those on the West. I am extremely sorry it is not at present in my power to give you a particular description of all these islands, but at Alexandria you will easily obtain every kind of information concerning them that you can require. In your return from Constantinople, after passing the N. W. end of Candia, if you will wish to see the South part of Italy, and the island of Sicily, it will be necessary for you to perform your quarantine at Malta; but as the Sicilians suffered dreadfully from the plague in the year 1743, I am not certain that you can go from Malta to any part of that island, without being detained some days on board the ship. At Messina where the plague raged with its greatest violence, they often impose a quarantine of seven days, even on those who come from the opposite coast of Calabria; but the Neapolitans are not so scrupulous, therefore having got Pratique from Malta you may land in that city.

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THE time spent in visiting Constantinople and the islands in the Archipelago, and also in performing quarantine, will bring you to Naples in July or August, which indeed is not the most favorable season; but that cannot be avoided, unless you prolong your stay at Constantinople or the islands, so as to arrive at Naples in September or October, which is exactly the plan I should most recommend, for by this little delay, you will have full time to examine countries, which are in the highest degree worthy of your attention: you will be able to pass the winter most agreeably at Naples; and you will have all the following spring and summer for your journey through Italy and France to England; the warmth of the sun increasing, as you advance towards the North.

And now Sir! having conducted you to the continent of Europe, I shall beg leave to conclude; not however without assuring you that if necessary, I shall be happy to afford you any further information in my power, and also that I am,

S I R,

With great respect,

Your most obedient humble servant,

FORT ST. GEORGE,
Nov. 29, 1780.

JAMES CAPPER.

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J O U R N E Y

F R O M

CONSTANTINOPLE to VIENNA;

B Y

GEORGE BALDWIN, Esq; &c.

WE hired a coach, an old cast-off fiacre, to carry us from Constantinople to Vienna, with four horses to draw it; two horses to carry our baggage, a janizary to protect us, and a serugee or post-boy to conduct us. We began the journey on the 28th of September, 1780, upon a Thursday, from Mr. Willis's house in the village of Belgrade; Mr. Willis and his brother Stuart accompanying us part of the way. In eight hours we arrived at ponte Picolo or Cutchuk Chickmagee, and were joined by Dr. Lucci;

we lodged in a new conak pretty well accommodated: in fact our bed furniture we carried with us, and it consisted of nothing but a carpet, two small square cushions to set on, and two cushions to lean or lay our heads on, as our inclination might prompt, and a quilt to cover us. On Friday the 29th of September in the morning we departed; all the way on our journey the same objects were varied by different aspects; the country hilly on the right, and on our left, the sea. In three hours we arrived at Buyuk Chikmagee or ponte grande, a much pleasanter situation than ponte Picolo. Breakfasted, and in five hours more got to Silivria, this town which is considerable, is situated on the declivity and summit of a hill, has five mosques, and an ancient Greek church with inscriptions, which the Priest could not interpret. We remained here till Saturday morning eight o'clock (30th September) when our friends left us. This separation did not a little disturb us; Mrs. B—— who for the first time in her life now found herself bereaved of all her acquaintance but myself, and just leaving those she had great reason to esteem, was totally overwhelmed. The very fine country we passed had no attractions for her, and gloomy and sad we went through

through this day's journey, a seven hours march to Chio Oglu. In this state of mind we took up our lodging at a spacious and once magnificent conak, when an occurrence happened that excited our curiosity, a passion that is not to be stifled by affliction. The Devan Effendi of Wallachia made his appearance with a suit of a dozen carriages, and a long cavalcade of more than an hundred horses. He is an officer appointed by the Porte to co-officiate with the prince of Wallachia in causes wherein Turks and subjects are concerned; the supreme power being vested in the prince, who is a Greek, and appointed by the Porte. This and the principality of Moldavia are the only vestiges I know of the ancient Greek dominions; the Greek language is spoken at court, and all the instruments of government are drawn up in that language. On the road from this place, whence we departed at five o'clock (1st October) Sunday morning, we met a much more considerable train attending the sister of the reigning princess of Wallachia, and related to the druggaman of the Porte. This dignity so sounding is but of a precarious tenure, since the Porte have upon a late occasion assumed and exercised the unexampled prerogative of deposing and beheading the

the prince. The country is hilly, and well interspersed with villages and trees, the road good; we lost sight of the sea on the preceding day. In ten hours we arrived at Burgas, a large village with a considerable mosque in it; as yet no sickness on the way, but we heard reports of the plague raging at Adrianople. The people were collected at the entrance of the town, with tents pitched and music playing, to celebrate their festival of Bairam with dancing and songs. The Turks fast during the whole moon of Ramazan, by a strict abstinence from meat or drink, or any thing sensual, from sun-rise to sun-set; but many of them indulge in pleasures during the night. At the end of the Ramazan, or rather upon the appearance of the new moon of Bairam, they celebrate a festival of three days, cloathing themselves entirely new; and giving into every amusement that a people characterized for temperance and sobriety may be supposed to indulge in.

We rested at this conak till five next morning (2d October) and then pursued our journey. The road is very good and pleasant, but hilly; on the way for hours together, to the right and left, we saw swarms of Locusts, myriads; the
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atmosphere was darkened with them; it was their coupling time. The male was distinguishable, being of a fine yellow colour, and the female of a dark brown. This may be considered as their last stage, they take flight, and falling in their passage, they deposit their eggs half an inch in the ground, and die. The invincible superstition of the Turks in all their metaphysical tenets, makes them as blind in their tolerance of this evil, which they could easily prevent; as they are in neglecting every precaution against the effects of the plague; but they say, "What God has decreed, must be fulfilled."

We arrived at Affsa at four o'clock in the evening, a village only four hours distant from Adrianople, or Aderne, as the Turks now call it. No plague here, and from the information our janizary brought us, it had ceased at Adrianople. Our room was small and low, and part of one side of an old square building, having a gallery within, tumbling almost in its last stage of ruin. A mosque stands in the center of the yard, and near it is a basin of water surrounded by some trees, it was just enough to keep us from the spleen. As we did not credit the last accounts we had heard of the plague having ceased at Adrianople, we consequently determined

mined not to go near it. On Tuesday morning therefore (3d October) at sun-rise, taking our departure, we made a tour to a ferry below the city, and in an hour and a half arrived at Caragatch, the summer retreat of the French merchants established at Adrianople. We were seen as we entered the village by a Monsf. Terrasson, and conducted by him to his own house, the abode of genuine indiscriminate hospitality, even to strangers, and those of a country hostile to his own. The condition of one of our horses made it necessary that we should get another, and retarded us in this place all that day, and the next. We were visited by Monsf. Meynard, his mother, sister, and brother, who expressed themselves concerned that we had not fallen to their lot; but they made us all dine with them on Wednesday. Monsf. D'Argus also would have vied with his compatriots, if time and his own misfortunes had not made it impossible; enfin, *c'étoit la benediction de Dieu*. They were as happy as they made us, and I never was more so in my life. We were near the plain of Demstica, and the village of Demirbash, renowned in the history of Charles XII. of Sweden. We walked over this theatre of his extravagant exploits with a kind of reverential delight.

delight: now a scene of pastoral tranquillity, scarcely inhabited, and but little heeded:

RETURNING to the village with our amiable party, we were curious to know the nature and object of their settlement at Adrianople. Trade I know to be their pursuit, but we enquired after its foundation and resources. They supply the city and its environs with the various produce of Europe, which is conveyed to them from Constantinople; either directly by land, or from Rhadosto, whither it is conveyed by boats; and from Smyrna by the port of Envi, in the Egean sea, and thence up the river Marizza to Adrianople. Their consumption is considerable, and in return one of their greatest articles of exportation is hare skins, which they buy as a substitute for the Canadian beaver; and send to the number of between three and four hundred thousand annually to France. I was astonished at this surprizing nursery of hares, but the account is certainly founded in truth. Bred in Wallachia and the intermediate tract of land, they are driven in large parties by the severity of the winter, down to the plains: the snow with which the ground is covered betrays their

Q. *and foxe may haunts*

haunts to the hunter, and thus they are easily ensnared.

WE had a view of the city of Adrianople, in which there appears some magnificent mosques and other public buildings. It extends a considerable way along the river Marizza, just after it has been joined by the Arsa and Tunja, and from thence rising in a gradual ascent, the greatest part of the city is seen on an elevation, which impresses a very advantageous idea of its beauty and importance upon the traveller's mind. The plague was preying at that very time upon the lives of its inhabitants, and forbade our nearer approach. Notwithstanding we did not go thither ourselves, we were not free from very well founded apprehensions of the danger we intended to avoid; for our conductors had been into the city, and in company with the people of it; they had been cautious they said, but our reliance was in the mercy of Providence.

As we came to a cross road in the skirts of the city on our way from Affsa, we saw upon an eminence a man erect upon a stake, at the height of three feet at least from the ground; he

he had been impaled, and was placed there in terrorem to others. It is not a very unusual sight in the dominions of the Turks.

On Thursday, the 5th of October, we took our leave of Carragatch, but our French friends would attend us part of the way; they must see us across a river we had to ford at a dangerous place; we knew nothing of the river, and therefore a cart upon much higher wheels than our coach being about to pass, we got into it, and took our baggage with us leaving the coach to follow. We got over dry and safe, but our coach was nearly lost. Our friends swam their horses over with us, and after that instance of their very cordial attention, and politeness; bid us adieu, and returned. We staid to see them safe on the other shore again; made signs of our satisfaction and gratitude, and went heavily on. We forded and were ferried several different times in this day's march, which lasted eight hours over a beautiful country, and at length brought us to a Bulgarian village called Hebibchay. We had been joined at Carragatch by two Greek priests who begged the favour of our protection on their journey to Belgrade, to which we had no objection. We

rested in a Christian's hut, nothing more than mud walls four feet from the ground, and thatched. We slept here, for the first time, on the ground; that is, on our carpet spread upon the ground. The language of these people is the Bulgar, something of the Illyric. We could not understand it, all our entertainment therefore was derived from our sight; the women appear hardy, and do not conceal themselves. We made a good fire in our hut, forgot the humility of our lot, and in defiance of vermin, passed the night in some degree of comfort.

ON Friday at sun-rise (6th October) we left this place, and passing over a very fine hilly country in sight of the river, in eight hours we arrived at Armanak, where a magnificent khan was originally built for the accommodation of the troops, and now affording a shelter for travellers. We however, after a slight repose, continued on to Semiky, a Bulgarian town, which we reached at sun-set. The women flocked to see Mrs. B——, and viewing her with a great deal of astonishment, I asked one of them what was the reason of their wonder? she answered, to see a woman who had never done

done work. There was so much simplicity and so much ignorance of a state of refinement in this answer, as to dispose us to bear with their importunities. The Bulgarian families intermarry, unite, and make common cause. The custom is for the husband to live in the paternal house of his wife, and their numbers accumulate in some families beyond credibility. We bought a sucking pig for twenty paras, or one shilling; and one of our sacerdotal companions undertook to dress it, as he did also to interpret for us, in which we were sometimes at a loss. We had not discovered all his merit till this day, perhaps not all then. Our bed was again upon the ground.

On Saturday morning at sun-rise (7th October) we renewed our journey, and passing by some villages and over a fine country, arrived at four in the evening, at Papasquoi. This village is situated in the plain of Philipopoli (by the Turks called Phillibey) near a small stream, which makes it pleasant. Our nocturnal accommodation as usual; but the vermin rather more importunate; fatigue however is an irresistible opiate, and we got a proper portion of sleep.

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ON Sunday at sun-rise (8th October) we renewed our march for Philipopoli; in half an hour we came in sight of the city, it being situated on a rock leading to it over a plain, the river Marizza meandering by it, and fertilizing and beautifying the country in its way. Rice grows in great abundance in this plain, and good in quality. There were numbers of waggons going to and fro upon the various roads in the plain; and gave signs of an activity, and industry, which is very unusual in the other parts of the Turkish dominions. The fact is, a considerable iron mine in the neighbourhood, gives employment to all these convoys of waggons, and the character and constitution of the people is more suitable to commerce, than in the province we were leaving behind us. We entered Philipopoli at eleven o'clock, and had to ascend a very narrow and steep road to the residence of Sig. Demetrio Khirro, a Greek, with whom we took the liberty to sojourn. This gentleman is a Raija, or Christian tributary of the Grand Signior, but protected by a barat, or privilege of exemption, allowed to the Ambassadors of the Porte. Every Ambassador is complimented with the privilege of giving protections to the number of thirty-two as servants, but

but they are sometimes sold to the rich Rajas for considerable sums. Signor Khiros's house is spacious, very pleasantly situated upon the summit of the rock, and commanding a beautiful view of the plain beneath, watered by three rivers, the Arta, Tunja, and Marizza, just as they are approaching to a junction in the vicinity of Adrianople. Our host himself was a considerable trader in red cotton yarn, which he sends in large quantities to Russia, in lesser to Germany. There is also a large consumption here of India piece goods, supplied by the company of Armenians, at Constantinople; nor are these the only considerable objects of speculation. We tarried all this day Monday the 9th of October, and on Tuesday the 10th at eight o'clock in the morning we resumed our journey.

One of the hind wheels of our coach had been newly hooped, and other reparations made so as to give us greater confidence in our vehicle we began to descend the rock. In issuing from the town, we immediately found ourselves on a very long bridge over the Marizza, which having passed, our way lay between fields of rice, just gathering and treading out. In six hours

hours we arrived at Bazarjeek, a large town on the plain conspicuous by reason of its mosques and gilded domes, and admirable for the beauty of its situation. We were lodged in the bishop's palace, and from a * Kiosk to the westward, commanded the finest view of a campania without exception in my knowledge, that this country affords. Close under our window ran a gentle stream, and further on united with the main body of the river. Near the junction is a wooden bridge, enlivened by a constant concourse of people on foot or on horse back, and with carriages, incessantly passing and repassing. The view extends over this plain or rather beautiful lawn, which is pleasingly interspersed with clumps of trees, to the foot of the Balkan mountain; thence gradually ascending, and displaying a diversified scene of rustic art and nature, still enchanting to the very top. Near this town is the mine of iron I have spoken of, which is said to be very productive. It is open to the industry of every adventurer, the sultan takes no heed of it; why he permits others to work it, is a mystery to those who know the principles of his government not to be explained; but cer-

* A Turkish summer-house.

tain it is any one may enjoy the fruits of it). On Wednesday morning (11th October) at sun-rise we left this town, but the same scene was before us, we proceeded along the plain, drawing gradually to a Cul de Sac, and in two hours came to rising grounds, constantly increasing in acclivity towards the summit, and near the top growing extremely difficult and steep. At four in the evening, without any accident, we reached Palanka, a Turkish village of three houses, on the summit of the Balkan, and took our station for the night. Our best choice was the common stable, and very calmly and contentedly we took up with it; spread our carpet, and patiently submitted to this hard, but sometimes necessary lot of travellers. Before night came on however, we amused ourselves with walking about the hills; observed some vestiges of an ancient tower, collected some wood for kindling a fire, and when tired withdrew to rest. We got over the apparent hardships of our situation, and at sun-rise were well recruited for prosecuting our next day's adventures. Thursday the 12th October, we set off to complete our passage over the mountain, leaving a horse behind, worn out with toil. This Balkan, which I have heard so often talked of, as

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the impassible barrier and defence of the Turkish dominions in Europe ; is, if no better barrier is to be opposed to the power of their nearest neighbour, in my opinion, a bad dependence indeed. From the summit, beginning the descent, is seen a beautiful meadow, and about its center a town, with a single mosque in it, called Ifternam. We arrived there at noon, and dined ; but thought fit to force our march to a village, four hours further, in order to reach Sophia with more certainty and ease, in the course of the next day. Our horses were the worse for it, we got however to Bakreglee, a town in Servia. This place is situated among some oak plantations, upon the hills, at a distance from the road. The people are robust, and thought rude, but they seem to possess their competency. In departing from this horde the next morning (Friday 13th October) we had to descend a most rugged and unbeaten tract of road, and could only have passed safely over it with the assistance of a dozen of these rustics, which they readily afforded us. It employed us two hours, when we were brought in view of the valley of Sophia. It exhibits a very charming prospect, as the soil is rich, and covered with a delightful verdure ;

dure; several villages contribute to adorn the prospect, and beyond all, the city of Sophia. The mountain of Vetosa, well known for its minerals, and the river rising from its bowels; make two additional and interesting objects in this landscape. When the rains are heavy, a variety of metallic ores, and often of pure gold, are brought down by the torrent. A spring of hot water runs through the city, and is converted into a bath, for the conveniency of the inhabitants. Upon conversing with the archimandrite on the subject of the gold mine, he assured me, that eight villages gained a constant subsistence from sifting the sands brought down by the rains, and frequently were found among them precious stones of considerable value. Such a treasure offering to the eager avidity of the Turk, made it a matter of wonder to me, how the officers of the Porte should neglect it; and begging the priest to inform me of the reason of it, he solved it in the following manner. Their avidity, he said, respecting this matter, was the cause of their reaping no advantage from it, for the workmen being too poorly paid for their labour, concealed the fruits of it, and would take no pains to multiply their discoveries. The officers also, who were

employed in collecting these riches, were too much tempted by the facility of enriching themselves, to be true to their trust; and representing the deficiencies which were caused by their infidelity, to the poverty of the mine; laid government under the necessity of abandoning the pursuit. So true it is, that in a matter of first moment to all governments, and in which the spirit of Turkish prerogative can know no bounds, but indulges every species of violence; the want of judgment defeats their aim. No circumstance in the history of Turkish ministry, can give so strong a proof of the insufficiency of their system, as this: they cannot gather, where nature has profusely bestowed her gifts; but like true despots, cut down the tree, to get at the fruit—It is the nature of all despotism.

WE left Sophia, on Saturday (14th October) at sun-rise, and our journey lay along a fine country, exhibiting all over the face of it, quite to the road side, an exuberance of wild strawberry plants, which owing to the clemency of the season, were generally in blossom. In six hours we got to Kul Kallah, and halted to recruit our horses for a march of six hours farther.

ther. There is a large khan in this place, but decaying fast. We proceeded in an hour, and soon penetrated among the mountains; our road lying through a chasm, apparently formed by some strong convulsion of nature. The road was bad, we therefore could proceed but slowly, and consequently it was late and dark when we arrived at Sari Buroot, where we slept. The next morning, Sunday (15th October) at sunrise we departed, and passed over a hilly country in about four hours to Sharquoi, where we were well entertained. Our room was by the side of a prison, where a dozen of gypsies were chained together by the neck; men and women indiscriminately, in order to extort a tribute from them. We rested two hours, and continued our journey over hills, to Ak-Palanka. In this last stage we met the courier going to Constantinople, and were happy by his means, to send some tidings of our progress to our friends. Our lodging at this place was worse than usual, and made us very impatient for the return of day.

On Monday the 16th October at day break we resumed our journey. The first part of it was over mountains and bad roads to Banaquoi, where

where we dined, and in one hour and a half more arrived at the bishop's palace at Nisba. Another horse worn out; the other three almost exhausted, and requiring rest. The bishop received us with infinite politeness and urbanity; wished us to stay a week with him, and did every thing in his power to engage us to comply with his request. He pressed us to attend divine service the next morning at his church, promising to officiate himself by way of giving an air of solemnity to the occasion, and in every respect took great pains to entertain and honour us. His name is Maccarius, nearly allied to the reigning prince of Wallachia. He has travelled into Russia and pretends to a perfect knowledge of the ancient Greek literature. The women here wear caps in the shape of helmets, composed of quantities of paras*, strung together into that form. This is the capital of great Servia. We left it on Wednesday morning (18th October) at eight o'clock, and in two hours entered the skirts of the famous wood of Belgrade: during the course of this day's march, the appearance of the country was sometimes open, sometimes closed in

* A small Turkish coin.

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with wood. We dined at Alikfinsa, six hours ride from Niffa, and went four hours further on to Reifna. The road was tolerably good; but the sky grew cloudy and threatened us with rain; a circumstance of all things most to be dreaded in the wood, as the roads in that case are rendered almost impassible. We reached Reifna however before it began, but soon after, and during the whole night, it never ceased for a moment. We were under a very bad roof, in a large barn or stable, in a kind of watch loft, and with the prospect of being detained there, most unpleasantly situated indeed. It cleared up in the morning (Thursday 19th October) and we set off, but the roads were deep, our horses sulky, our tackling bad, and every thing cross. With the utmost difficulty, we arrived in six hours, after breaking our coach pole, and much of our harness, to Parakin; four hours short of the appointed place; where we took up our night's abode: all this while in the wood. The sky grew serene and a strong wind arose which continued all night, very much to our advantage, and on Friday morning (20th October) before sun-rise, we again pursued our journey. In two hours we reached a town on the river Morva, and ferried over it,

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and immediately entered the thick of the wood leading to Zaghadina, where we dined, and afterwards to Bagherdena, to pass the night. This day's journey of eight hours, was over considerable hills, covered with lofty oak; but as the weather proved fine, the journey was not so gloomy and disagreeable, as it would otherwise have been. Next morning, Saturday, 21st October, we set off again early, and marched still through the wood to Hassan Basha Palanka, where we passed the night; and on Sunday, 22d October, as early as possible, proceeded by Golan and Krotzka to Zweybruchen, where we slept. On Monday morning, 23d October, by eleven o'clock, we arrived at Belgrade. Our janizary had preceded us to get the Basha's passport, for leave to pass the confines, and met us by the side of the Danube, with a Junk, prepared to take us across to Semlin. We got there at about one o'clock the same day, and resorted immediately to the place allotted for our quarantine.

WE had letters of introduction to the Baron de Sturm, commandant of Semlin; and he and his lady did us the honour of a visit the same
after

afternoon, offering us every assistance and indulgence, the nature of our confinement would admit of.

SEMLIN is a small town, situated upon the peninsula, between the rivers Danube and Sava, just at the conflux of both, and immediately opposite the town of Belgrade, which has been the theatre of some of the great exploits of prince Eugene.

The Lazzaretto or infirmary, is upon a low point of land nearest to the river; having the town at the back of it. The rooms are sufficient for the accommodation of passengers, but unavoidably damp and unhealthy, they are warmed by stoves, which make another inconvenience equally intolerable; for the air so rarified by a heat impregnated with the metallic properties of the stove, fell directly upon our lungs, and nearly suffocated us; which obliged us to renounce our fires.

THE weather towards the first part of our time in this place was fine, and we had liberty to make short excursions into the country, in a carriage or on foot, upon promise of observing

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the strictest distance from all we met, and having a guard to accompany us. We were too eager of this privilege for our good, for walking too far on a cold day, to see a fishing party; Mrs. B—— was seized with an illness, which, in its consequences, embittered our journey the whole way from Semlin to Vienna.

THE Lazzaretto, which is built upon a large spot of ground, and is very spacious, is generally pretty well filled with merchandize imported from Turkey.

DURING our stay we were variously entertained; a fair was to be held, just upon our terminating the quarantine, and people were assembled to attend it of all denominations, and from very distant parts. There was among the rest, a company of itinerant merchants, that had wandered from the mountain of Tirrol; uniting at the same time, their mercantile and musical talents, and blending and improving them both for the common good. This company came to our quarters in the lazaretto, and entertained us with their music. A woman accompanied them upon the harp, and the whole party playing upon various instruments,
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and having a good choice of airs gave us compleat satisfaction. It cost us two florins, and they were satisfied.

HAVING performed our three weeks quarantine we were happy to quit immediately the cold and comfortless situation we were in, for an apartment offered us by the director of the quarantine in his own dwelling. Mrs. B—— had been very ill for several days with a fever, and was yet in a very critical state. We spent a few days in this situation with very little sign of her amendment, and at length resolved to set off. We bought a four-wheeled chaise of the director, but the body nothing more than that of a common whisky, old and impaired in every part of it. We left Semlin in the rain and were from ten o'clock in the morning, till ten at night, creeping and plunging along before we got to a place of shelter. We were to have been conveyed in six hours to Peterwaradin, and instead of that, with joy we put up with a room in a cabaret at Petsche almost overflowed with rain. It had a long table in it, such as is found in the most wretched of public houses, and thereon I spread our carpet, Mrs. B—— being reduced to make

it her bed for the rest of the night. I for my part laid myself down upon the bench by the side of it, summoning to my aid all the patience and resignation that was wanted to endure a situation so full of complicated distress. We set out as early as we could next day and arrived at Peterwaradin about twelve o'clock at noon; Mrs. B—— continued very ill, but being housed at a tolerable auberge, we sent for a physician to prescribe for her. She rested all that day and night, and next morning had spirits enough to desire to go forward but with the fever still upon her, the weather was rather finer and we ventured on. The roads were so bad it was with difficulty we got along; our way lay for the most part by the Danube side. We got to Gloshan where we changed horses and went on to Kerakatsch; but here they detained us six hours while the horses could be got; they were conveying wood for the post master. The weather was fine which heightened our chagrin beyond bearing, and the indifference of the people at the post house almost drove us to despair: at length they made their appearance and we got to the next stage Patsch. We had no long delay here, but our horses were very unwilling to get on. They carried us
through

through the town, and near a mile beyond it, but in crossing a bridge of loose timber laid across a deep ditch, they turned so short as to bring one of the hind wheels of our chaise upon the timber ends, and canted them up, so as nearly to upset us in the ditch. I saw the danger before we came exactly upon it, and jumped out with Mrs. B—— just in time to escape the fall. I stopt the postilion instantly, and by jumping into the ditch, and putting props under the timber ends, the carriage got safe over the bridge and we remounted. We had not gone far however before our horses became restive, and turning out of the road, ran us into a bog close by the side of the Danube; every effort to get out for many hours was vain, but at length with the assistance of two additional horses, and the presence of the post master himself we got back to the post house, where the woman of the house did all she could to relieve and comfort us. She made Mrs. B—— some broth, and gave up her own bed for the whole night. The next morning early we were able to proceed, and endeavoured to recover our chaise and baggage which we had been obliged to leave sticking in the mud exposed to be plundered by the first passenger. We made

made several attempts to drag the carriage back, but the horses were unequal to it. It had settled at least four feet in the mud, so that we could not move it for several hours. It was Sunday morning, and some very stout peasants, a dozen at least, passing to the town to church, I begged their aid and offered them money: they sat their shoulders to it, and relieved us at once; having got us into the right way again, one of them taking Mrs. B—— into his arms, carried her over the bad road to the carriage. We thanked them as our deliverers, gave them what contented them, and were glad to get on again. We got to Novafella and from thence to Vukovar; we had no provision with us, nor could we ask for any, but by signs; we walked into the post-master's kitchen at Vukovar, though it was otherwise no public house, and there being several pipkins on the fire with soups and stews, we expressed a desire to partake of them. The cook-maid who saw us and understood us very well, was inflexible to our demands; all that we could get of her for an answer was *nix, nix*; I therefore helped myself, and before Mrs. B—— could get the soup to her lips, she fainted in my arms; this scene excited the woman's compassion, and with the relief

relief she brought, we were in an hour or two, enabled to proceed. Our next stage was Essek, but we had yet to surmount many difficulties: the way lay over a wide common, and night coming on, we got out of the road, and went round, and round, for hours in the same circle; at length we heard the sound of horses feet, by the direction of which, we were once more put into the high road: about three o'clock in the morning we got into the town, and were carried to a lamentable beerhouse, where we were glad to find a place of rest. Mrs. B—— had suffered the utmost agonies during this journey, and was apparently breathing her last. At day light I sallied forth to get some assistance, and the post-master being near, I recommended myself to him. He had a good house, and very humanely offered to accommodate me with a room, and the domestic comforts that his family afforded; I very happily embraced it, and returning to Mrs. B——, took her in my arms, and removed her to this hospitable dwelling. The name of the post-master to whom we were so much indebted, was Franco-laki; I got proper medical advice, and every other desirable assistance, and was happy enough, on the 17th day, to see the fever which had
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never intermitted, compleatly dislodged. We were visited and invited by the commahdant of the place; General Mattheisan and several of the officers and their ladies, and were enabled in a few days, to leave the place, full of gratitude and admiration of the benevolent treatment and hospitality of the good people of Essék. We exchanged our carriage here, and again pursued our route. The post from hence to Vienna are as follows: from Essék to Baraniwar, the roads were deep and very bad; next to Siclos, to Funffkirken; to Geosziget, to Istvandi, to Babosea, to Presnitz, to Iharos, to Canisea, to Kahath, to Szala Egeffek, to Kerment, to Stein, to Am Anger, to Gunz, to Groswarasdoff, to Edenbourg, to Grosholfslein, to Wimpasseing, to Hochan, to Vienna.

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J O U R N E Y
F R O M
CONSTANTINOPLE to ALEPPO,
B Y
GEORGE BALDWIN, Esq;

IT is necessary to obtain a Firman or order from the Porte before you can be furnished with post horses. The method observed by Franks (by which appellation all Europeans are distinguished in Turkey) is to apply to their respective minister by whose direction it is demanded of the Porte, and always granted: but any subject of the Empire may obtain it by direct application to the Vizir, and upon paying a fee of three Crush and a half (or 7s. 6d.) to the clerk. I obtained mine by this means,

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and at seven o'clock in the morning of the 11th of May, 1780, left the Metropolis in a boat, and crossed the Hellespont to Scuder, or Scutari, the Chrysolis of the ancients.

MR. — a painter by profession, myself, Selim Aga a Tartar guide, Emin Aga who begged my escort; my servant Matthew, an Armenian, and two post boys, called Serugees, composed my party. At half past eight we mounted, and on our way passed Malteffa, Fenar, Cartel, and at Bendik we stopped and refreshed. The Turks have proportioned their distance to time, and by my general observation, it turned out about four miles to the hour: in riding post through, they often run down three hours in one. The appearance of the country to the left, or North East; is a gentle ascent over hills, leading to the foot of very high mountains. The soil seems good, is well cultivated, and the vegetation much forwarder, than in Europe, though at so small a distance from it. All the way on our right we had a view of the sea of Marmora, the princes islands, the gulph of Ismit, the coast of Mandania, and mount Olympus. At five o'clock in the evening

ing we arrived at Gheibize, the first Menzel Khané, or post house from Scuder.

It must be remarked, that we were all equipped as Tartars, and were from long intercourse with the Turks, pretty well able to support our disguise. We were enjoying our pipes and coffee at this place, and composed in fact for the evening; but this was to be a journey of adventures, and the arrival of a certain Osman Aga, on his way from Aleppo to Constantinople opened the first scene.

He brought with him the baggage of an English gentleman, who had accompanied him to the stage before, but had strayed from his party, and might probably, he said have fallen among thieves, as he had been missing from two o'clock in the morning. I looked into the baggage to find by some superscription of letters, who the person might be, by which I discovered him to be a Captain James Smyth. The circumstance engaged one to mount, though tired, to go in search of him. We passed a village after two hours march called Mallum, and further on to a ferry, where we embarked with our horses, and sailed across an arm of the gulph of Nicomedia, course south east, to a low point

of land on the opposite shore; distant only a quarter of an hour's walk from a hamlet, called Hersek. This traverse which we performed in three quarters of an hour, avoids a six hour's round by land, and in winter, is sometimes so boisterous, as to be impassable for days together. My first business at this place was to enquire for my distressed countryman, and I was almost instantly gratified by finding him in a solitary coffee house, extended on a mat asleep; I called to him by his name. He started, stared, and looked astonished, as if he still thought himself in a dream. This gentleman had been in India, aid de camp to General Egerton, and had arrived thus far on his way to England. He had been most cruelly beaten by the man that accompanied him across the desert from Bassora to Aleppo, and from thence, by collusion with his Tartar guide, had forced his company upon him, in spite of all the precaution he had taken to avoid it. They had travelled disagreeably together as far as Kiz dovréne, but on the road from this place, which is notorious, I am told, for robbers; both this man and the guide set upon him, and forced him to fly for safety to the woods. He concealed himself there till day light, and then crept into a corn field by the
road

road side, whence he espied a hospitable passenger, an honest Bostangee, who conducted him to the place he was in when I found him. He little expected when he laid down in this situation, surrounded by a people he knew nothing of, and full of apprehensions of further ill treatment, ignorant of their language, and helpless in many other respects, that he should be roused by a countryman seeking to relieve him, and administer succour to his distress. It appeared to him, as I said before, the effect of a dream, and he was long awake before he could be undeceived. When informed of my name, he knew it, and appeared rejoiced to see me. It is flattering to observe a public prevention in one's favour! I rescued Mr. Smyth from the people of Hersek who were unwilling to give him up; nor till I had threatened to return to Constantinople to complain, would they release him. I procured him a boat, and a trusty person to attend him, when he had embarked, and I saw him set sail for Constantinople (it was twelve o'clock at night) I returned to my quarters and laid me down to rest.

At half past four in the morning (12th May) I resumed my journey over hills and dales, a
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four hours ride, to Kiz dovréne. The nightingales, which in this country sing all day, and are near every shaded brook, are so numerous, and their notes so sweet; as to make the ride a species of enchantment. The village we are now at, is inhabited by Bulgarians, and is situated on a hill, surrounded by higher hills, and near the foot of an ancient ruined castle. These people are independent, and preserve their original customs. Their women go unveiled, are free, jocular, and of a complexion and forwardness, that bespeaks no apprehension of insult or violation. We breakfasted with this Amazonian tribe, upon eggs and milk, and proceeded on our journey with the same horses towards Chinislik. The road is the greatest part over hills, enriched with spontaneous odoriferous shrubs, and pleasant, if excess can pleasant be, to the extreme. When you come to the descent, the prospect is delightful. On your right appears a vast lake, adorned with a rich verdent margin; in front, at the east end of the lake, the city of Chinislik; and to the left, promiscuously dispersed on rising grounds, in a semi-circular view, a variety of villages, beautifully environed by variegated lands, and cattle brouzing on the summit. It was ten o'clock when we reached the

the city. You enter among some vestiges of a ruined wall, and on a square tower, high up, is seen a Greek inscription: nothing in the town else did I see worth remarking. We got fresh horses, and mounted at four o'clock; our road lay along the middle of a rich valley, and on each side adorned with walnut trees, a small rivulet running between. The cultivation on each side the mountains, to their utmost scope, appearing more extended, and giving a livelier picture of industry, than I had met with in any other part of Turkey. After an hour's ride in the valley, we began to ascend the hill to the right, and at the top, were brought in prospect of the Brussa road; only six hours distant from the capital of that name, once the royal residence of the Sultans: it is described by a river running at the foot of it. This river has its source in mount Olympus, and is increased by the hot springs of Brussa, and the dissolving snows from the heights above it. It flows northward to the Black Sea, and enlivened our prospect all the way to Leuke (our third post-house) a city of some note for its manufactures. We did not arrive before ten o'clock at night, fatigued and hungry. We supped on pila and stewed fowl, our invariable fare, and rested like travellers worn down with fatigue.

fatigue. At four in the morning (13th May) we mounted, and as we rode along the town, could see the world in motion. Many of the inhabitants are Christians, and their houses spacious; the river runs at the bottom of the town. Beyond it on the banks, were planted for a long tract, the white mulberry tree, for the nourishment of silk worms; for in this territory is produced large quantities of silk, which finds its way to Europe, under the denomination of Brussa silk; and for its goodness is in high repute. We passed a very delightful valley, well watered and interspersed with trees during the first part of this post; and towards the end, over a very steep and difficult mountain. The road is level on the top for a good stretch, but we soon came to a shed occupied by a guard, who were provided with fresh water, and such fruit as the situation would enable them to procure, for the convenience of the traveller. We met here half a dozen men, whom we should have been very sorry to have met upon the road: fellows that had been dismissed from the service of the Basha of Trebizond; and who, in their state of dereliction, are known to have recourse, for subsistence, to every species of violence. It is the case all over the Turkish empire, when any Basha

sha is deposed, his mercenaries are discharged, and under the denomination of cossaks, or men at leisure, go a free booting upon the public, until they are reinstated in some other employ; they then plunder for their master, for their avocation is to despoil. These men eyed us with looks of rapine, but they saw us armed; they took the road we came, and we proceeded on our journey. This was a post of ten hours to Sekut (fourth post-house.) Near this place, and in view of it, is buried the first of the Ottoman race, the great Ali Osman Pádeshá. His tomb appears at about half a mile distant from the post house, by an iron pallisading, and a plantation of lofty cypresses. We mounted at five in the afternoon, rode over mountains, and latterly over a fine plain, to Eskee Shaher (fifth post-house.) As we were seasoned a little to riding by this time, we accelerated our rate, and performed this post in seven hours; which brought us in at twelve o'clock at night. Upon the sofa in the room to which we had been ushered, lay a Turkish guittar, a hum-drum kind of a thing to European ears, but temptation enough to divert Selim from his inclination to rest. He strung it to his voice, and with an hilarity of song, which Yorick would have har-

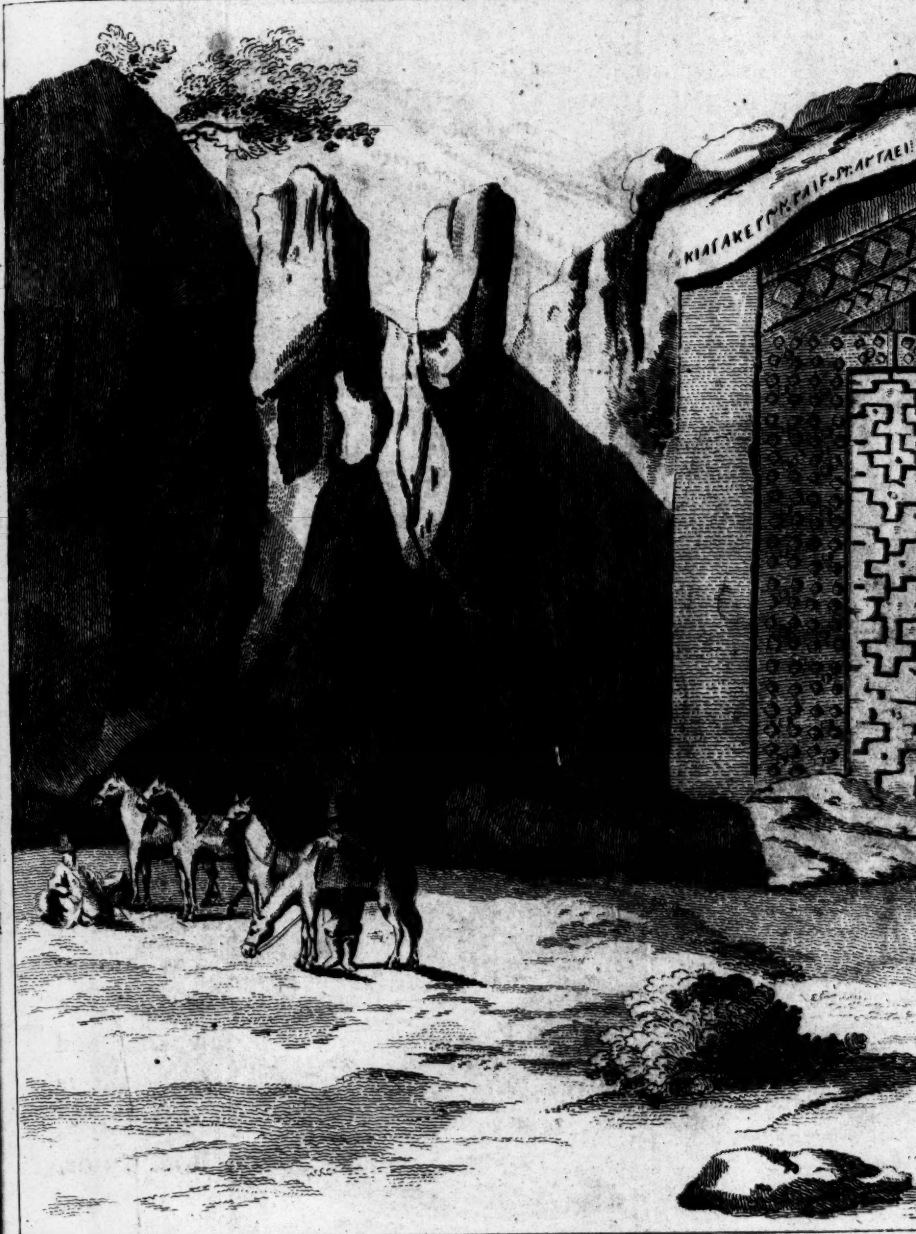
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monized to the finest feelings, he charmed away the night. At dawn we sallied forth to view the baths; and the morning disclosed to us a city beautifully situated on the acclivity of a hill, commanding a wide expanded view over a fruitful, well watered plain. A copious source of natural hot water rises in the skirts of the city, and unites its stream with a considerable river, flowing to the southward. The baths are built over the spring; but where the waters issue, to the place of their junction with the river, all along its course, the poor inhabitants are employed in great numbers, in such offices of necessary and useful ablution, as the conveniency and importance of such a benefit, must unavoidably suggest. I bathed in these celebrated hot baths, and drank of the waters; both were reported to have efficacies conducive to health. In effect, I can vouch for their property of immediately operating all the good purposes of ease and relaxation. I was as *delassé* in half an hour; as if my ride had been only ten, instead of two hundred miles. It was a fortunate refreshment, for we got but indifferent horses here; but we made them go notwithstanding in ten hours, over hills, and a pleasanter, because a varied soil, to Saidi Khazzee, (6th post-house.) This place
is

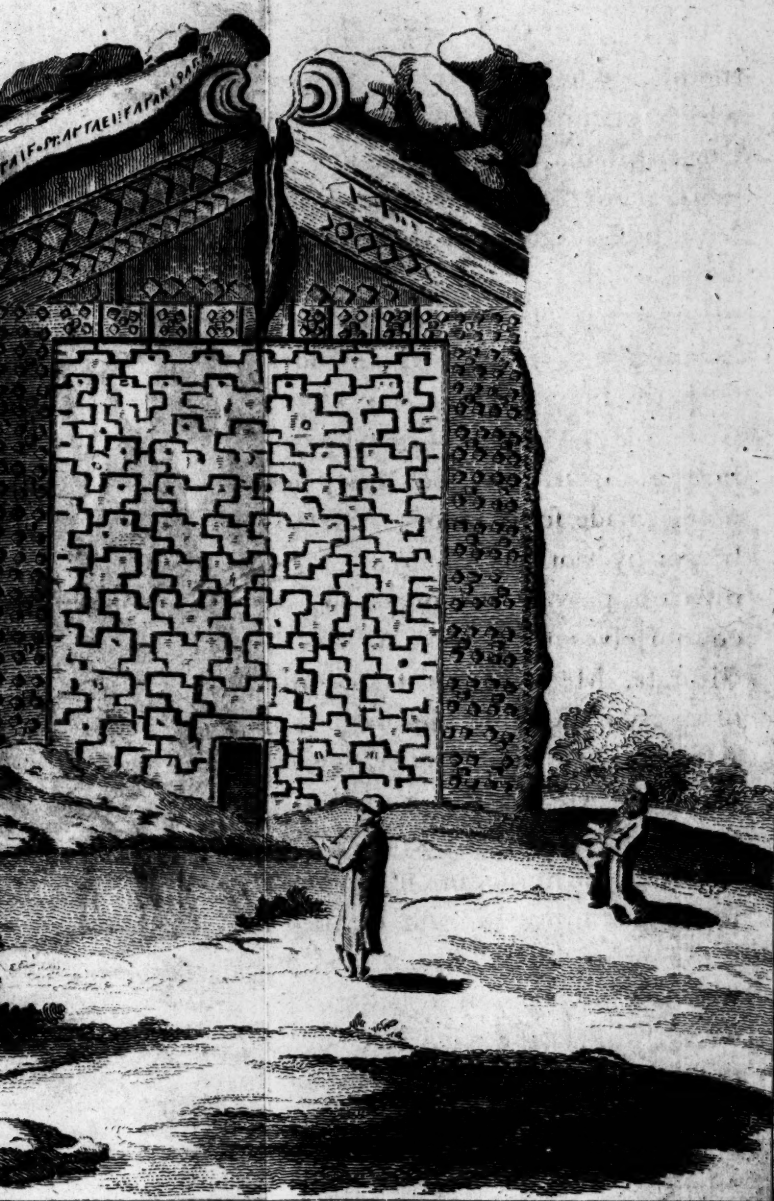
is distinguished by a large square building, with a magnificent mosque in it, on the top of a hill. It took its name from a surprizing fantom, who, by the tradition of the Sheick, most marvelously confined a gigantic spirit, that had done incredible ravages, and was the terror of the country round about. The daughter of Solyman the Great, had it declared to her in a vision, that if she would make a pilgrimage to this spot, and dedicate upon it, a mosque to the prophet; the Sheick should be endued with power to shackle this spirit, whereby the people should be relieved: all which was regularly complied with, and fulfilled. The Sheick gave the painter and myself a paper of white powder each (part of the giant's bones pulverised, I suppose) which had the property of preserving us against danger. We took it and gave him alms, which is the only valuable property it had in effect. "That
 "of drawing from the credulity of the ignorant,
 "or the complaisance of the enlightened, a tribute which contributed to his affluence and
 "support." We left this place at four in the afternoon, and because at the next post-house, the horses could not be got in from pasture before a delay of ten hours, we crossed the country directly over mountains and through woods to

the place where they were. We were nine hours, which detained us until one in the morning. Corfaff Basha is the name of the seventh post-house; but we deviated to an itinerant horde. We roused the chief from his cabin, composed of the trunks of fir trees, laid as they were hewn down, one upon another, in a square figure ten feet high; and covered at top with the branches and leaves: it had a chimney place formed with mud and stone, and a glorious fire in it. We took his place, lighted our pipes, made some coffee, ordered our horses to be got by morning, desired some eggs and milk might be provided for breakfast, and then resigned ourselves to sleep. At day light, Hadgee Mustafa, Menzel Aga of Cofruff Basha, a man of a very respectable appearance joined our party. After some conversation, by which he had discovered that we were Franks, he entertained us with a very unexpected breakfast, for he had his family among the horde, and flocks and herds abounding about him: he told us also of a wondrous building in the neighbourhood of the place, on which Frank characters were inscribed; and which must have been erected, he said, before the Turks had driven the Infidels (Ghiaours) from the country. It was only an hour's ride,
and



ΛΕ: ΤΥΑΥ ΕΝΣ: ΛΕ: ΕΛΥΡΡ. ΝΙ ΤΙΜ

ΚΙΑΣΑΚΕΓΓΡΑΙΕ: ΣΤΑΤΑΕΙ: ΠΑΡΑΚΤΡΑΓΕΜ



ΠΑΤΡΑΓΜ ΒΑΒΑΙ ΜΕ ΜΙ ΕΛΙΣΙ ΓΑΙΤΑΓΣ ΚΡΥΑΙ ΑΕΥΣΙ ΚΕΡΑΛΟΣ

and he proposed to lend us horses and to conduct us thither. Mr. —, the painter, and myself mounted, and followed our good old Turk to this fragment of antiquity. We proceeded over a hill, and through a wood of pines, to a small valley, in which a rivulet runs, supplied by water oozing from an ancient aqueduct; and two hills in the form of sugar loaves, on which are the ruins of two ancient towers. These were not the objects our Aga had intimated for our observation. He led us further to a ground ascending to the foot of a rock, making the extreme angle of a chain of inferior mountains. As we approached, it exhibited a beautiful ornamental facade, engraved on a polished surface of the rock. It seemed to have been a work antecedent to the classical institutions in architecture; but regular, sublime, and bold. On the extreme right margin of the facade, beginning about one fourth of the height from the ground, and wrote sideways upwards to about one third of the top, is a clear and distinct inscription of ancient characters: There appears another on the projected cornice, over the upper part of the left side of the facade, but some of the characters effaced, the rest very clear. I offer no conjecture as to the intentions
of

of their authors; but give the fact, and leave the comment to antiquarians.

THE depth of the rock, for it projects from the great mass of the mountain, and is palpable on three sides of it, is no more than twenty feet: and appears, excepting the polished and engraved facade in its rude, irregular and natural shape, without a sign of excavation, or the vestige of a building. I had a thought at first indeed, that, as it faced to the east, it might have been a monument of pagan worship: but further on, is another in the same style, of less magnitude and beauty, facing the north, which again staggered my opinion. I may conclude with safety, that, let what will be meant by it, it presents at least to the contemplation of the curious, a singular, magnificent and lasting view of the then state of ornamental architecture. The when, and by whom, as before observed, is left to the decision of the curious and learned.

IN a line parallel to the facade, northward at about one hundred and fifty paces distant, is another rock, isolated, and of a conical form, exhibiting as many cavities of the same nature with those of the catacombs near the pyramids of Egypt, as the solid rock could possibly contain. I
entered

entered into many, but none communicated with the others. They have all a variety of niches, some more, some less, as the number expected to be deposited therein, required the labour of making them; and leave no room to doubt, that they were receptacles for the dead. They are now receptacles for the living, for I found a bird's nest in one of them with several young, but I thought there was more piety in leaving them undisturbed, than impiety in disturbing the insensible dead.

WE returned to the hamlet at half past one in the afternoon, and mounted our horses at two, very well satisfied with our digression and discovery. The old man, in the idea which is generally entertained by the inhabitants of the East, that all Franks are doctors or conjurors; held out his pulse, which I directed to the painter, as having something more intense in his phiz, to know if he was well. As it generally turns out, that people act from impulse, and only ask the advice of doctors when they want it; I told Mr. — to recommend a dose of rhubarb, with which he was provided, to cool the old man's blood: he said it was very wise and proper, thanked us, and bid us farewell.

WE

We passed through woods and over mountains, three hours march before we got into the high road. Proceeding, we saw to the left of us, or north side of the road, many cavities in the rocks, of the same appearance of those I described in the last stage; but leading one into the other to infinity. The entrance to these caverns is small, but some of them may be capable of containing three hundred horse. Further on stands a rock, singly, and of a sugar-loaf form, excavated and disposed in such regular apartments, as, my guide said, had acquired it the appellation of Seraija or palace. These places, it is said, were inhabited by banditti; and I saw on the way side near them, a large number of sepulchral stones, stained with red, to denote that the blood of those, that were there interred, was spilt by violence. It took us thirteen hours to Ballawadin (eighth post house) where we rested till seven o'clock, Tuesday morning the 16th of May. It was here that upon our arrival, a fellow addressing himself to me as head of the party, proceeded without further ceremony to shampoo me. It is a custom in the Turkish baths to press with both hands upon every limb and joint, and by crossing and bending them to their utmost stretch, bring the muscles to their proper tone: it does not produce the most agreeable

able sensations during the operation, but, after hard riding, is the compleatest restorative to strength and vigor that can be imagined*.

THE road from this place is across a plain, for the most part under water; a bridge however, composed of a great number of arches over the deepest part of it, affords a dry passage to the traveller. In this part of the country grows the poppy, from which opium is made; fruitful and extensive crops were ripening to the expecting peasant's wish. Having crossed the plain and being arrived at the foot of the opposite mountains, we followed their direction, and were refreshed and delighted, by passing over at short intervals, plentiful torrents of water, nourished by the melting snow on the mountain heights and running into the plain.

IN six hours we arrived at Issaklee (ninth post house) and dined, but lost no time. We resumed our journey with fresh horses, and proceeded along the same delightful plain, still copiously supplied at little distances by torrents of refreshing water, from the snow-top'd mountains, all the

* Vide Letter, p. 28.

way to Askeshaber—only seven hours' ride from the last post house and the tenth from Constantinople.

THIS is the first town in Caramania, situated at the foot and in the chasm of a mountain. It gave birth to the famous Nasser il Din, celebrated for his great wit and pleasantry. His spirit is invoked as the genius of the place; and they report of him, that unless certain unremitted attentions are paid to him by the inhabitants, he causes the fresh winds to cease, and reduces them to despair. In his life time the great Zingis Khan passed before the town, and Nasser il Din was deputed by the inhabitants to appear before him, and to pay their homage to him. But as the custom of the East makes it criminal to go into the presence of the Great for the first time without some tribute, and the poverty of the place could offer nothing but the fruit in season; old Nasser il Din had a dispute with his wife, whether he should take pomegranates or figs: she was for the former, but he took the figs, in which he had good cause to triumph; for when he presented the figs, the conqueror ordered his people to throw them one by one at his head; and for every one that hit him, he was observed to make a solemn thanksgiving

giving to God. Zingis Khan could not refrain from demanding the reason of this from the philosopher, who explained himself by saying, that if he had brought the pomegranates, his *wife* would have had cause to triumph, by seeing him return with his head broken. It must have been therefore the work of Providence that inspired him to take the figs in opposition to her opinion; whom, for quiet sake, he had humoured in every other instance of his life. Zingis Khan, for this witticism endowed him with the sovereignty of the place, and which has been sacred to his memory ever since.

FROM the town we descended again to the same fine plain, and after ten hours ride, that is, at one o'clock in the morning, we reached Il Ghaun (eleventh post house) 17th of May; three hours rest sufficed us. At four we mounted to proceed on a stage of eighteen hours. The first part over uneven ground, though a rich soil, to Khabung Khané, and so on to Ladik, a town half way. It was time to rest and recruit our horses and ourselves for nine hours further stretch, upon nine hours already performed with the same horses, was something redoubtable both to man and beast. In two hours however on we went. Our road

was over little hills about half the way. At near sun-set we came in sight of Conia, then at a great distance, standing majestically on an extensive plain, once the seat of empire. The eye is wearied with this view. A mountain stands singly in the center of the plain, seeming from rising vapours in the vast expanse, a shapeless cloud. As we approached, our objects disappeared. Night dropped her veil and closed the scene.

THE way grew tedious as our nags grew weary, for nothing is so irksome as a jaded horse. Fatigue, and some little inconveniences from long incessant riding, made me feverish, but a few hours rest repaired all that. Temperance of living, and abstinence from wine, are necessary rules to be observed in travelling. To these I ascribe my good state of health, and the facility with which I endured the fatigues, the heats, and hardships of the journey : it was ten at night before we got to Conia. The post house (being the 12th) is without the walls of the city, not to interfere with the discipline of fortified towns, nor impede the course of public intelligence and dispatch. This city stands about half way between Constantinople and Aleppo,
and

and makes a distance by my computation of near five hundred miles.

HAVING performed it in eight days, some little indulgence might conscientiously be taken; we therefore determined to spend the night and next day, at Conia. The walls are not so ruined as the generality of those city walls which have fallen under the Turkish yoke: there are many bastions yet complete, and many monuments of the power and passage of Sultan Amurath over this country. There are divers pieces of sculpture inserted in the walls, and particularly a coat of arms, having two spread eagles for supporters and another for the crest, incomparably well engraved. On the wall leading to the right from the principal gate, are two figures of lions, as big again as life, projecting from the wall, turned towards each other, and, by their attitude and expression, seeming eager to attack. Many indications are apparent of its having been a great and powerful city, and indeed the situation is such, as with industry and good government, to be susceptible of the highest attainment of grandeur and opulence.

BEFORE

BEFORE I take my leave of Conia, I must remark something on the institution of public post houses all over the Turkish empire. The astonishing heaps of bones and skeletons of horses dispersed in and about the yard of this post house, particularly, made it occur to me as an object worthy of enquiry.

It being one of the principal springs of all governments, and essential to a despot, to be well informed of the fluctuations in the inferior orders of the state; this public regulation the only one which is well followed up in Turkey, has been established all over the empire. In such towns on all the high roads as are at convenient distances, a number of horses are stationed for the Grand Signors Tartars, or the Tartars of any of the Basbas; or any of the Sultans officers of note; or any subject, or stranger who may be furnished with orders to that effect from the supreme Vizir, or the governors of provinces whose authority your situation may make you stand in need of. Every horse, for every hour's distance, stands you in ten aspers or two pence halfpenny; and the guide in ten aspers for each horse for the whole stage: so that a single traveller

veller with his guide going a stage of ten hours
will pay for the two horses - - 0*£*. 4*s*. 2*d*.

And for his guide - - 0 0 5

4 7

That is four shillings and seven pence for a stage
of forty miles.

But as this pay is very inadequate to the charge,
it becomes the concern of the public to defray
the deficiency; and therefore, they appoint an
agent to administer the functions of a post mas-
ter; that the office may be regularly performed,
and the due proportion of each with justice as-
certained. It had been in many places, a reason
of extortion to the Basha's, who under pretence
of assessing a rate for the purpose of maintaining
a due number of men and horses for their indis-
pensable service, have oftentimes fleeced the poor
inhabitants of ten times the needful. On this
account in some places where a certain spirit of
liberty has shewn itself, the principal inhabitants
have agreed to take this duty by turns on them-
selves; and in such places it is common to meet
with extraordinary good horses.

At

At Conia they were mere lanthorns. The nearest station to this great city being a ride of sixteen hours at least, no horse can possibly resist it for any length of time. It follows that the mortality is very great, and the charge of course so heavy, as to make it incredible, without ocular demonstration, to those who are forced to support it. For this reason the agent or Menzel Aga is cautious enough to preserve the skeletons in evidence of his honesty, and to screen himself from punishment. It may seem strange that so much regularity should be an effect of tyranny and oppression; but as those who have the power to enforce it, are so intimately interested in its punctual administration; it is likely to continue; and to be the most durable, as it certainly is the most useful institution, in this tottering empire.

At five in the evening (18th May) we mounted and rode twelve hours along the plain to a village called Ismil, where it was incumbent upon us to rest. In six hours we resumed our journey, which brought us by the isolated mountain, in nine hours march to Kaiabunar, making a stage of one and twenty hours on horseback. The ground is little cultivated in view of the
road

road, but produces numberless beautiful flowers, aromatic herbs, and almost universally over the plain, the absynthium or wild wormwood, emitting a fragrance which embalmed the air. In this town (13th post house) is a well built mosque, and at a proper distance in front of it, a large Khan, built, both of them, by Sultan Selim upon his return victorious, two hundred and twenty years ago from Egypt. The roofs were covered with sheet lead, supplied from a mine in the neighbourhood of the place, but now neglected.

THIS country is renowned for its sheep and goats, and for the excellence of their fleece; their pasture is in fact like that short substantial kind which grows on the south end of Banstead downs. We rested here till midnight, changed horses, and proceeded before one, by the island of Salt, and across a large marsh under water to Khortee; a village deserted in the summer on account of the bad air, though on the border of a fine stream abounding with fish. Innumerable quantities of serpents also infest this river, and come floating upon its surface, with crest erect, contemning danger. Two that came within our reach from the bridge, were victims

Y

of

of their temerity, but more perhaps of the enmity we had imbibed in common with mankind, against this natural foe to the human race. We were tempted by the situation to indulge with a pipe, than which no luxury at such a time can be greater; and having quaffed voluptuously for an hour, we remounted and pursued our way. The remainder of this post was over as fine a common land as I ever saw, and so similar in fact to some situations I had been partial to in England, as to stir up some old and painful affections of my heart. I lost the charm of the thing in the effects of the comparison; and for this time was the dupe of my recollection. In riding by a ditch, we discovered a large serpent upon the brink of it, with a toad's head in its mouth, and the body, though swelled as big as she could make it, her last resource, yielding gradually to the more powerful suction of its devourer. I attempted to relieve the toad, by firing a pistol at the serpent, which flashed in the pan; but Selim was more successful with a stone, for he killed the serpent and relieved the prisoner. This was in sight of Heraclea (14th post-house) the approach to which is very pleasing. Its principal avenue is composed of a considerable plantation of trees in a semi-circular aspect,
and

and beyond them on a rising ground, appears the town, over which a lofty mountain rears its head involved in snow. The more immediate entrance to the town, is by an allée, formed by a double row of trees on each side, through both of which is turned an ample stream. You pass a gate of sun-burnt brick, which with the other appearances of the town, denotes that its chief ornaments are the gifts of nature; simple, but sufficient. We dismounted at about eleven o'clock in the forenoon, and rested till four in the evening. We then pursued our journey all night, over hills and dales to Urucilla (15th post-house.) The habitations in this village are mere huts; there is a khan but I did not look into it. They gave us entertainment after their way, furnished us with fresh horses, and on we continued, over and among mountains of a great height; having a river running at the bottom, supplied by frequent torrents and sources of water gushing from the rocks above us on both sides. In five hours we came to a bridge, which describes the limits of the Caraman and Adena Bashaliks; and beyond the bridge is a source of water, for its peculiar goodness and sweetness call'd Shukher Poaré, the fountain of sugar. Here we were overtaken by a Bostangee and his servant, who joined us,

and regaled us with a whiff of his Nergheel or Persian pipe; he had left Constantinople the day after us, but had not delayed on the way; in half an hour we mounted and pursued our journey together. The mountains are adorned with numberless pines fantastically planted, affording a most delightful scene. In the course of the last seven hours, the two chains of mountains which environ the great plain of Conia, and which my memory can trace back to the plains of Bulla Wadin; having gradually approached each other, and now from an eastward direction, turn rapidly to the south, and round the intermediate points of the compass quite to south-west, and in this direction continue. We met in this day's journey, many large caravans of Turkman families, attended like the patriarchs of old, by all their live stock of camels, horses, cows, goats and sheep: along the vallies we saw others encamped to an incredible number. They wander as the seasons invite, from east to west, and from north to south, where markets offer for their superfluous stock; in such directions, and in such proportion, so as to find pasture distributed by the gracious hand of Providence for their flocks. They are well cloathed, and the females of the chiefs are accommodated with
(tackts)

(tackts) litters. Their appearance, their wealth, their simplicity, seem each of them to bespeak inextinguishable freedom.

At eight o'clock in the evening (20th May) we arrived pretty much fatigued, at Yá Illah (16th post-house) a place composed of only three huts, but under the government of a Turkman Aga, who shews no particular respect for the Sultan's officers or commands; made independent by the security of his situation. The name of the place is an invocation to God, adapted as I suppose to the danger of the pass. I could perceive rebellion in every look, word and gesture. Our Tartar Selim, who blustered or flattered as he knew the weakness or independence of his men, was obliged at this post house to assume an air of meekness; he began in an high tone of voice, but was answered with contempt: at length he submitted to pay an exorbitant fee for his horses, and was glad to get away. It was past midnight, and in a short time we began to descend the mountain. At about half way the descent, we came to a chasm, near twenty feet wide, the mountain running abruptly up on each side to a stupendous height. On the summit to the right is an ancient tower that might well annoy the pass, but its natural defence

defence below, seems to bid defiance to the most powerful armies. It is in my opinion, the proper line of separation between Syria and Carmania. The narrow pass took up an hour in the descent, and along a dangerous and horrid road; but affording by the light of the moon, such awful and romantic scenes as might feast the wildest imagination. Our post-boys were unusually concerned for the safety of our rear, perpetually warning every body not to lag. It was a journey of strange delight and consternation I confess. By day light we had passed the defile, and were got to a pleasant fountain of water in the neighbourhood of some inhabited lands; but still in the mountains, and of a very suspicious complexion, from the objects we could discover about us. We delayed but little, and at eight o'clock (21st May) we were reposing again in a poor man's garden, made and cultivated for the accommodation of the traveller. It was near a large khan, originally built for the passage of the troops, and very useful to the caravans in rainy seasons, but otherwise seldom frequented. From this place it requires an hour's ride to an inferior order of mountains, and among these, four hours more to the plain of Adena, extending to the sea. We reached this
situa-

situation at five o'clock in the evening, and seated ourselves by a small refreshing stream.

It was like the landing-place to our journey's end. We could see from thence the sea of Scanderoon, and the mountains beyond it. The city of Aleppo is distant about two hundred and twenty miles, but we were comforted at the prospect of soon arriving at our journey's end. Selim proposed that we should go to Tarsus instead of Adena, it was a nearer way he said, if there was a certainty of finding boats, but as that scheme would only have diminished our journey by land to encrease it by sea, we thought proper to decline it. Our horses were so much knocked up, as to retard our arrival at Adena (17th post-house) till three o'clock in the morning (22d May) the thirteenth day of our departure from Constantinople. All the way from the foot of the mountains the soil is fine, and well cultivated; exhibiting extensive crops of cotton and corn.

ADENA is situated on the banks of the Cydnus and Tarsus which I have just mentioned, is famous for being the scene of Cleopatra's magnificence, when cited by Anthony to the plains of Cilicia.

WE

WE entered on the north side of the town, but could distinguish little; it was night, but in issuing, we passed over a bridge of some consideration guarded on the town-side by a tower. During our short stay at Adena, we partook of the pleasure of the hot baths, which to harrassed travellers is a real pleasure, drank plentifully of iced shorbets, eat some delicate apples, and smoaked our pipes. We were visited by two Armenians, who called themselves agents to the English gentlemen at Aleppo. The country was in great disorder they said. Osman Basha, made Basha of Adena, by the interest of Abdi Basha, whose Kiaia he had been, on the point of marching with an army to assist his patron in the reduction of the rebels who had infested the environs of Aleppo for many months. They diverted me from going by Scanderoon as I had intended, because they said no Frank was there; but they did no more than comply with the desire of Selim, who was averse to that route. It was a scheme they were also personally interested in, for wishing me to take charge of a bag of five hundred dollars to Aleppo, which I had refused, because money is a lure for thieves; they prevailed on Selim to take it, and on me to take the other road, that it might be less exposed.

WE

WE mounted at five o'clock in the evening for Caradash on the sea coast to embark, and about midnight came to a horde or banditti, living in houses composed of cane and mud, half under ground and half above, of the most thief like appearance I ever beheld. Mr. — and myself were enjoined not to utter a syllable of Frank, and mute as mice we obeyed. We spread our carpets upon the top of one of these fellow's cells, and resigned ourselves to sleep.

At three o'clock in the morning (23d May) we were roused, but by our own companions, and set off again on our journey. We had left the river to our left a little before we came to Ya illah, to pursue its course between the mountains, while we made strait over the tops, and met it again at Adena, after the southwardmost chain of mountains had emancipated its restraints and gave it free career upon the plain. We crossed by the bridge at Adena, and, saw it and its beautiful effects almost the whole length of the plain to the sea. In the latter part of our journey we disturbed great numbers of antelopes and wild boars, as they lay concealed in an extensive space of lofty rye grass, serving them both for food and shelter. There appeared some

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ruins

ruins of villages on our way to Caradash, a ten hours march from Adena (I will call this the 18th post house).

THIS is the place of embarkation. It was seven o'clock when we arrived. Fifteen boats had just landed a caravan of goods from the bay of Seleucia going from Aleppo to Constantinople, and afforded us choice of embarkation. Whilst Selim bargain'd for the boat, I bathed in the sea, and observed the situation to be Cape Malo, forming the north cape of the gulph of Scanderoon. It affords a small harbour for boats, being defended by two long flat rocks to the southward. Close above the beach along shore runs a considerable bank of sand, through which a passage is cut in a direct line with the center of the port, having a square building on an eminence fronting it, intended to give shelter to passengers and their effects.

NEAR this place, the English ship Greyhound was wrecked in the year 1760, and on the strand lay one of her guns, a melancholy memento of that misfortune. I was at Cyprus at the time, the ship had just before been with us; it was a subject of grief to me then; nor can I help saying now, but my sorrows are revived.

AT

At three o'clock in the afternoon we embarked, and by the evening had traversed the gulph and were close under Cape Khanzir (hog) the southwardmost cape of the gulph of Scanderoon. During the night we had a smart thunder storm and much rain. In the morning we passed old Seleucia formerly in the bay of that name, but now of Antioch. The ruins of it seem to spread semicircularly round the hills above the port. The Ries, or master of the boat told us, it had been an excellent harbour, but that the Turks had destroyed it: I could have told him the same story with additions and variations. The bay of Antioch has Cape Khanzir to the left or N. E. and mount Cassius to the right or S. W. To hit the entrance of the river (Orontes) coming from the northward, you must steer right for the center of the high land of Cassius, which course will bring you on the line of contact between the sea and river waters. You then run eastward along shore direct for a little low building on the plain marking the entrance to the river, into which we sailed for half a mile and landed on its banks. Our Bostangee was on shore first, and being an officer on public business was first accommodated with horses. He had told us that he was upon some commission to the Bascha

of Damascus, and that he should go along mount Cassius (which by the bye is an almost impracticable route) to Latachia. In short he took his leave and we bestirred ourselves to follow his example.

THE place is now called Sovadee (which I shall deem the 19th post house) and consists of a few cane huts. There were quantities of corn in heaps near the river as if for sale; and upon a hill to the right appeared a town of little note. Among these mountains are various sectaries of idolaters; some of them worshipping the devil as their supreme being, and offering as the most acceptable sacrifice to his infernal highness the blood of a cock. The river abounds in eels, which are caught and salted and carried to Cyprus, and all the circumjacent ports on the coast. The Greeks and other sectaries of the christian church make a demand for this article for their seasons of lent, and a mortification it must be in my opinion to eat them. The fishery is farmed of the Basha of Aleppo, and was in the days of my consulary dignity at Cyprus, the property of a dependant of mine. It now belongs to the Hukim Bashee (or proto medico) of the Basha.

SINCE

SINCE Bias has revolted, and the high road has been made impassable by the ravages of its usurpers, this is become the passage for the Tartars. The Sultan's * Khafnys too, which by an irrevocable law of the empire should be never ventured upon sea, is forced to seek security in this dangerous deviation.

SUCH is the convulsed state of this once formidable empire. Such the necessary effects of a tyrannical system of government. Oppression will beget rebellion. In Caramania, and the revolted provinces, you see the people wearing a robust and manly aspect; they have a firm emphatic tone of voice; speak as if animated by a love of freedom; live a rude and natural life; possess its best riches, and a spirit to defend them! can tyranny go down with these? what has it produced? It is the worst of all bad policy. It oppresses its own resources. Oppression begets a fresh necessity of oppressing. What it extorts to-day will be deficient to-morrow. The end is defeated by the means. Power must be kept up to enforce violence and to deter resistance. Wants increase as the resources diminish. Authority will know of no denial, corporal punish-

* Treasures,

ments

ments are inflicted and death. Thus the impossibility of avoiding, where there is no temper to the evil, forces to defiance. The law of despotism is a self-destroying principle, infallible, unavoidable. The utmost in its power is to protract the evil day. When the members are lopped off which were its support, how is this enormous body to stand? It must fall, decay, and perish.

So much for tyranny. We procured horses and at ten o'clock in the morning we mounted for Antioch. They were sad hacks, but of evil sometimes good (*à quelque chose malheur est bon*) the cruelty of Abdi Basma had so far expanded its terrors as to make this but a momentary inconvenience. Selim felt his authority reinvigorate under these auspices, and without entreaty, dismounted the first poor peasants we met and took their horses. He flogged them for remonstrating, and that with such a mixture of wanton severity, as hurt me greatly. He thought he pleased me. On our way, after an hour's ride among hills, we entered a lane hedged on each side, and watered by a rivulet running through it. Some mulberry trees by the road side, made us wishful of their fruit and in pursuit of it we fell into the garden of a Turk.

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He was seated by a limpid stream, in the shade of a wide spreading plantane, beguiling the time with puerile amusements, patiently waiting for his dinner. The peculiar hospitality of these people, made us welcome partakers of his fare, which, exclusively of the grateful seasoning liberality is wont to add, was composed of plenty and variety. This is one of the agreeable casualties in the chapter of accidents which falls to the lot of travellers. It is the happiness of mediocrity. Kings are strangers to it. But what of these Scenes? They cannot humanize the vitiated spirit of Turkish prerogative. Emin Aga, our humble and pennyless companion was seized with the contagion here, and as if the example of the chief was a sanction for the slave, began to beat and bully indiscriminately.

ANTIOCH is now in view (20th post house). It is situated at the foot of a barren rock and is encompassed by a wall which embraces the top of it. The Orontes wets the skirt of the city and has a bridge of tolerable appearance over it leading to a principal gate. The prospect on this side is hilly, but beyond it, exhibits a level champaign country, capable of the highest degree of cultivation. We entered the city at six in the evening (24th of May) distress was depicted in every count-

countenance. Nothing could we hear of, but the tyrannies of Abdi Basha, excepting indeed, the heart-heaving sighs with which such tales are accompanied.

HERE we rested till three o'clock in the morning (Friday 25th May). The Arabs say, "When you hear the stripes, look to your own back." A significant proverb! And as it turned out, very apposite to the circumstance of my departure from Antioch. What I heard indeed, was the prelude to a very tragic scene, wherein I was unfortunately to be a principal actor.

WE mounted, and our road brought us, in about an hour, to one of those fountains, which to the honour of the Turks be it said, are met with where such conveniences have been most wanted; near almost all the public roads in the Turkish empire. We dismounted, and here for the first time on our journey, Selim prayed. As the circumstance was unusual, I remarked it at the time, and as the catastrophe which overtook him may justify such a conformity with the common opinion, that mankind feel very often a presentiment or warning of an approaching fate, I venture to ascribe Selim's new devotion to an impression of this sort. We rode on from the fountain

fountain towards the iron bridge (a bridge of stone over the Orontes, so called from having the gates cased with iron) which took us up two hours, debating all the way, which road we should take to Aleppo; for there is one by Sal-kin, over the mountains, but safe: and another by Harim, shorter by six hours, and over the plain, but dangerous. All our inclinations biassed to the short road, and Selim though he acknowledged some danger, and left the option to me, made so slight of it as to determine me for the plain. I premised however that our arms should be inspected and made ready for an encounter, but Selim then treated the notion of danger and my proposed precaution with such contempt, as to persuade me there was no necessity for it, and I neglected it. I thought no more about it, but being arrived at the iron bridge, we halted half an hour to recruit the horses, and I profited of the time by a nap. My servant Matthew could not be quite so easy. During my secession, he had employed all the argument he could think of and his fears could suggest, to dissuade Selim from the shorter route, for he had heard truer representations at Antioch of the danger we had to incur, than had come to our knowledge, or than Selim would confess.

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But the decree was gone forth. We crossed the iron bridge and took the dangerous road. Selim was pensive but would not declare his reluctance. He rode on. I could see his confusion, and was ruminating with myself on the folly of meeting danger without preparing at least, the arms we had for our defence, when Selim rode up to me. He had just decided the conflict in his breast, and seeming to rejoice in the triumph of his reason hastened to address me. "We'll not go this road Cogia!" Why Selim? "There are no villages in this harim (vile) road, we'll take the other." Well, do as you please I said, and in turning from that we were in, to cross to the other road, we were forced to penetrate among some very high weed. Before we were well got out of it, we were pursued by four horsemen scarcely appearing above this weed, calling out to us, to surrender or we were dead men. We faced about and told them to keep off. The robbers came within musquet shot, stopped, and called to us again to submit; but we affected to resist. Selim drawing his sabre, in a hectoring voice called out, your carbines, your pistols; fire at these fellows. My friend the painter, and my servant Matthew with my carbine, had rode off. I had only one pistol to resort

resort to, the other had flashed at the serpent and had not been reprimed; and with that presented at the thieves, we received their fire. I thought to follow up their discharge with an attack; but they were too adroit. They disabled me by a shot through my right arm, by which my pistol dropped to the ground. Selim was shot through the head dead upon the spot, and two horses were killed. Emin Aga and myself remained on horseback in the field; he with a solitary sabre, and I disabled. What had we to do? Sensible as we were of our danger if the thieves should fire again, or attack with the sabre; we had no alternative but to trust to our horses and if possible to get away. The thieves had not offered to advance while we kept the field, but the moment we set off, having to pass near them in our retreat, they bore down upon us with their sabres held at arm's length in their hands. I was foremost a few yards, and consequently nearest. The one who had intended for me, by some impression which I cannot account for, changed his direction and turned off to Emin, met him, and with one stroke of the sabre, cut his face close under his eyes down to the socket of his jaws, so that the all but sever'd part, hung by the skin upon his breast, and in this condition

was, he pulled from his horse, stripped to his shirt, and left for dead upon the field. My servant Matthew was got safe back to the iron bridge when I reached it. He appeared with a most gloomy look, and when I dismounted and desired him to bind up my wound, with the cloaths and all drenched as they were in blood; he melted into tears. I forgave him for having deserted me in the action. The Kaffar or guard of the bridge, three in number, and three Delahia or cavalry soldiers of the Basha, who had seen the affair from the opposite side of the river, mounted and affected to pursue, but another party of thirty thieves appearing upon the plain, they thought it prudent to return. The baggage was carried clear away. I begged them to go in search of the poor painter who had fled the contrary way, and could not possibly have escaped being cut to pieces, if the thieves had pursued him. In half an hour they found him, and brought him half naked, with the most woeful countenance I ever beheld; he was scared and did not know that he had got among friends. Emin Aga had been brought in a moment before by the serugees, his face in the condition I have described it before, hanging down and exposing all the raw and mutilated parts of his jaw and throat. My own misfortune appeared

appeared light; compared with such a picture of deformity. His shirt all covered with gore, a most horrid spectacle. A gangrene formed in the part and killed him after a wretched and too long existence of four days. Selim was brought to the bridge, and after a legal inquest upon his body intended chiefly to determine the orthodoxy of his faith, was buried by the high road, and a stone placed over him smeared with red. I saw in poor Selim illustrated the practice I had taken notice of in the former part of this narrative, as prevailing in similar circumstances all over Turkey, but I was sincerely sorry to see it exemplified by so solemn an instance of its reality. It was time to pause a little on my own condition. I was in no dismay, though it is difficult to imagine a circumstance of more distraction to the affairs of any man, than this to mine. I had learnt the doctrine of resignation from the practice of the Turks, and with them could find solace in a patient submission to the laws of necessity. Alla-kerim, said I, God is great*. It was a question with me in that situation, whether I should go on to Aleppo, and expose myself to the danger of a mortification, by bearing two days fatigue and heat, where

* Literally merciful.

a surgeon was to be found : or return to Antioch, which was near, in the uncertainty of finding any surgical assistance. In this suspense I was providentially overtaken by a French gentleman, Monsi. de Fonton, interpreter to the French nation at Aleppo. My servant seeing him approach, exclaimed with joy ; here is the French dragoon from Scanderoon ! I took him to be some Greek, as such are usually employed by our consuls upon the sea coast ; and as they are apt to assume an impertinent interest in the national differences ; I set him down as unworthy of my notice. When he came up and pretended to commiserate with me on my misfortune. I said to him very indifferently ; *Je vous suis bien obligé mon ami, mais, nous sommes nous autres, en guerre, n'est ce pas ?* meaning that I expected little from him and to humour the supposed character I had given him, but I was deceived : He was an original Frenchman, humane, well-bred, and whose brother I was acquainted with at Constantinople. *Vous avez tort Monsieur, said he, de vous imaginez comme ça. Je serois fâché que la guerre nous rendit sauvage. Vous pouvez vous disposer de moi.* I was compleatly chagrined at the sentiment I had uttered, since it happened to be so unfortunately applied. *Je vous fais mille excuses,*

excuses, mon cher Monsieur, said I. Je ne pense pas ainsi des François, veuillez bien m'en rendre justice. Je profiterai de votre secours, et de vos bontés. He persuaded me to go on with him to Aleppo, and without a moment's hesitation, I put my arm in a sling and mounted. It was ten o'clock in the morning and excessively hot, but I suffered no depression of spirits nor alteration in the pulse. We marched four hours to the usual ferrying place, but the boat and people were gone to avoid the outrages of the Basha's people, and we had two hours farther to proceed to find it. We crossed the river, and in three hours more arrived at Salkin (21st post-house) a considerable village on the top of a hill. We halted to pass the night. My friend chose to shave, to get rid of so much of his ghastliness as was added by his grisly beard, and a barber was called. But this barber was a surgeon too, and so well skilled, from great practice, in cases of shot wounds, that he would not shave the patient till he had operated upon me. I consulted Mr. Fonton upon the subject, and we agreed to let him dress the wound. He was dextrous in cutting away the cloaths from my arm. He then probed the wound both ways with an iron probe as thick as my little finger, and finding no fracture, pronounced

nounced that under his care it would soon be well. He then composed a mixture of honey, melted butter, (as it is prepared for Turkish cookery) a quantity of salt, and some pounded onions, and opening the wound with his probe, poured at least half a pint of it through and through. He then bound it up, brought me a clean shirt from his own wardrobe, and counselled me to be quite reconciled to my fate. Monf. Fonton was so good as to superintend the kitchen, his servant having staid behind; and produced an excellent soup on which I supped and composed myself for the night. In the morning at five o'clock, (26th May) we resumed our journey with the same alacrity as ever. We continued with the same horses however, along a chain of mountains and bad roads most part of our way by the village of Azami to Martevan, where we passed the night; and the next morning in four hours march we reached the city of Aleppo. It was upon a Sunday, the 27th day of May, and after a journey of seventeen days inclusive from Constantinople.

Mr. Abbot the consul was at prayers with most of the gentlemen of the English factory, in a chapel in the consulary house. I begged not to disturb him, but that Mr. Freer the surgeon might

might be desired to step out to me. He made his appearance in a moment, and with his kind assistance and care, on the 15th of July, I was again able to hold the pen for the first time and to record the suspended account of my journey and disaster.

I took up my residence with Mr. Charles Smith, whose hospitality is universal; with him I calmed my sorrows. My first resolution in these moments of tribulation was to take some steps to recover my papers which were of infinite consequence to my affairs, and by Mr. Smith's advice we had recourse to the following measures. There is an Arab Chief named Sheik Shaaban, who is generally encamped in the neighbourhood of the robbers and is respected by them as a prodigious conjuror and master of divination. The truth is, he profits of this reputation to find out by his ingenuity what appears to them, the effect of inspiration*. We in the first place wrote him a letter accompanied with some presents, and hoped his good genius would patronize our cause. Assuring him further, that in that case, we should answer the effects of his zeal with proper sacrifices and offerings. The other mea-

* Turcoman Jonathan Wild.

sure was to send a letter to Mr. Sholl, British marine factor, at Scanderoon, desiring him to gain the authority of Abd-ul-Rahman Basha of Bylan who was at this time in alliance with the thieves, and to render me with them what good offices were in his power. The return of the messenger from the Arab brought me a very civil letter, and many of my papers, but those of most consequence to me remained behind. Mr. Sholl's applications were not attended with success. I then sent another man with promises of greater presents to the Arab Chief, and another to the thieves but without effect. The man who returned from the thieves told me that they were pursued in their retreat from committing the robbery, and dropped many things from the horses which they left on the way. I flattered myself from this, that by a diligent search, the papers might be recovered, and therefore resolved to make another effort in person. Encouraged by this hope, on the 7th of August I departed from Aleppo on an expedition to the thieves.

EXCURSION to Ghiavur Dagh, or mountain of infidels, the nest of the Curdine robbers.

In the opinion that the portmanteau which contained my principal papers was fallen from the

the horse and that my only hope was of finding it in the plain where the grass was grown extremely thick and high; I had to provide myself with such efficiencies as seemed most to promise success in such a desperate search.

KONDER, in the first instance, a conductor of caravans from Aleppo to Scanderoon, and well known to the robbers, was a necessary attendant to escort us to their haunts; and to prevail on them when there, to trace back the ground they had rode over in their retreat with their booty. Mr. Smith suggested to me to take two gypsies, who, he exclaimed, have eyes like hawks; and I thought myself, that, a couple of spaniels might be useful to traverse the ground before us; because, in the first place, the object if they should see it by surprize would set them barking; or if any scent remained in the leather, which it is susceptible of retaining for years, the dogs might discover it by that means, where human eye could not penetrate. To complete our outfit, a Delattia one of the Bascha's horse guards was thought necessary to protect us from the soldiers, as far as it was safe for him to proceed with us, and unsafe for us to proceed without him, the whole country being in a state of warfare.

With this train therefore and my servant Matthew I took my departure for Ghiavur Dagh at three o'clock in the afternoon. In about four hours we got to a village, deserted, excepting by two or three who remained there, to gather in the remaining corn; upon our approach they concealed themselves. We spread our carpet here, made some coffee, turned our horses into the corn that was treading out, and smoked our pipes in expectation as I supposed of reforming our journey in an hour or two. It was moonlight, and after a reasonable time I would have proceeded, but was opposed. There is more danger, my guard said, from the peasants in the night than from the thieves. We must wait till day light. At sun rise therefore we mounted and passed by some villages totally abandoned. At others the harvest was yet treading out, and the instant we were espied by the peasants, they retreated to their houses, armed, and as we came near them, kept us *en bât*. We made signs of peace to them by waving our garments in the air, and one of them came running up to us to know our will and pleasure. He knew Koider, but was suspicious of the Delattia. He made a signal of our neutrality to the village, upon which they laid aside their arms and received

ceived us very kindly. I was not quite easy under this hostile array I confess, and was led to enquire into the cause of this universal mistrust. It was owing to the uncommon cruelty of Abdi Basha's government. He had assembled troops from all parts to reduce the pretended revolt of Killis and Antab, two principal towns in the neighbourhood of Aleppo, and instead of pay to these mercenaries, he gave them free range over the country for sustenance and what plunder might fall to their lot in war. It was like devoting the country to general devastation. They had laid waste all the rich territory of Aleppo, and otherwise so barbarously used the poor peasants, as to force them to take arms in self defence. Every village we passed was upon the qui vive, and altogether exhibited such dangerous and melancholy proofs of the effects of despotism as is scarcely to be described. Our Delattia only served to encrease our danger. We arrived safely however in six hours march over craggy rocks, and in continual alarm, to the encampment of Sheik Shaaban.

He received us politely in the area of his tent, entertained us with pipes and coffee, and promised to give us every assistance in his power. He

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is a venerable old man, not extenuated nor depressed by his years, but sedately complacent, talkative, and affable. He declared that he had sent us all the papers that had been found, and that he had permitted no further communication with the Bagdashlees (the name of the tribe of thieves which robbed me) because Abdi Basfa had proclaimed all to be enemies of the Sultan who should be found in intercourse with them. We staid till next morning in this magician's camp, which was numerous and well stocked. He had some good horses picquetted before his tent, which he expressed a deal of pride in. His son, a youth of twenty, was training to the wand effeminately dressed, with large gold ear-rings, and affecting a prodigious sanctity and solemnity of manners. In the night we had a little alert from some pilfering rogues of an inferior order of Arabs, who had crept into the camp and stolen some sheep and fowls in spite of Oberon and all his tribe. Early in the morning we took our leave and pursued our journey across the precise spot of our encounter, marked with the skeletons of our horses which were killed. We continued on to the iron bridge, and rested there during the heat of the day. Many Turkman encampments were to be seen in the neigh-

neighbourhood, and many of their people passed the bridge upon their daily scout for melons from the cultivated grounds. An affray happened in our presence, in which one of their party was killed, and set them all upon the scout back again, with fell revenge in their looks. I expected to see some bloody scene, but our route laying a different way, for this time I was disappointed. At night we rested in a neighbouring village, and early in the morning arranged our party for the pursuit of the day. A dozen peasants with guns, ourselves, our dogs and gypsies wandered over that part of the plain most likely to reward our pains, but without effect; the next day ended as unsuccessfully, and resolved me then to go among the thieves.

I HOPED that they might still have concealed the portmanteau in expectation of a better reward, and I determined to engage them to discover it at any price. It was my last hope, and away I went the same evening to Antioch, passed the night there, and continued in the morning my route to the mountains. At ten we reached Karamut Khan, the entrance of the defile which leads to Bylan, and guarded by an officer of Abd-ul-Raham Basha's, to oppose any hostile attempt

attempt from Abdi Basha's troops. We were neutral people, and upon an expedition to the thieves, the allies of Abd-ul-Rahman Basha, and therefore welcome. This captain of the guard was a stout fellow and laughed with all his heart, at the threats of Abdi Basha. He informed us of the situation of the Bagdashlees, and in about an hour we proceeded on our way to find them. We were within ten minutes ride of the town of Bylan, when a friend of Koider's met us, and told us the thieves were in a village, half an hour's march from the road side. I sent him to them to fix the time and place of an interview, which they appointed for the next day, with an invitation to dine. In the mean time I went and lodged at Mr. Sholl's house at Bylan; and when the hour of appointment was come, I mounted and repaired to the rendezvous. The situation was among mountains, and marked by a few detached huts in which they usually reside: fifteen in number were sitting round the edge of a mat spread upon the ground. Upon my approach they rose to receive me, but seated themselves again when I had taken my place. They had every one a gun sling over his shoulder, and were equipped in the trophies they had won. Some of them had my cloaths on, and others the

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have you no more? By the beard of Koider you should have them! what are papers to us? you should have all the papers in the universe for a craight but you may have dropt them on the plain, they may be found. Found! the Turkimans are encamped there by thousands; do they leave any thing? they have burnt the weed all over the plain. Well God be thanked; I'll say no more about them. But let me ask you, you lead a happy life here; of how many does your tribe consist? Two hundred and fifty families. Ab-di-Basha is coming to exterminate you. Exterminate! said one of them, and burst into a fit of laughter. Why what resistance can you make to an whole army? Our mountain will resist him, besides are there no more thieves do you think than the Bagdashlees? You have the greatest renown, what other tribes are there? Hey! to signify innumerable, the Curdes, they are all thieves: there are the Sleikhan, Abbagee, Ash-kurbaglee, Chaillee, Dellibekerlee, Sareefeklee, Kidbanlee, Cutchukallee, Ravidlee, Chakallee, Jourlee, and Azilllee, all the way from Bylan to Persia. Some work to subdue these! You are brave fellows; but if we meet again? fear nought, we'll escort you to the gates of Aleppo. I took my leave. We all mounted. They took the road

road down to the plain, and I to Bylan, whence I instantly dispatched my servant Matthew with letters to Mr. Smith, begging him to send me a Tartar with the proper maniments to take me to Constantinople.

BEFORE he could come five days necessarily elapsed, and in this time I frequently saw the thieves; rode about the country, got acquainted with Abd-ul-Rahman Basha, and was witness during my stay, to the passage of that part of the caravan of pilgrims, called the division of lesser Asia, on its way to Mecca. It is the most splendid of any, being generally accompanied by some of the Sultan's family, and composed otherwise of the principal men of the empire. Abd-ul-Rhaman Basha possesses the strait of Bylan, where this caravan was unavoidably obliged to pass, and which as the Porte had thought fit to treat him with the epithet of Rebel, he had taken care to defend. It became necessary therefore to negotiate for the privilege of going through this strait; and that the credit of their religion, on which the Turkish government turns as upon a pivot, might receive no indignity, they deemed it politic to lose no time about it. The Basha was applied to, and he as readily consented. Not

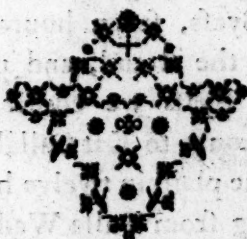
to be taken by surprize, and to have a pretext for keeping the whole town armed while they remained at or near the place. A public wedding was solemnized, and all the great men of the caravan desired to assist at it. There was a prodigious affectation of joy and merriment upon the occasion. The pilgrims who were supposed to be feasted, were surrounded by the Bascha's troops, of course not very easy in such a situation; while the Bascha was laughing in his sleeve at the borrowed complacency and satisfaction they were constrained to put on.

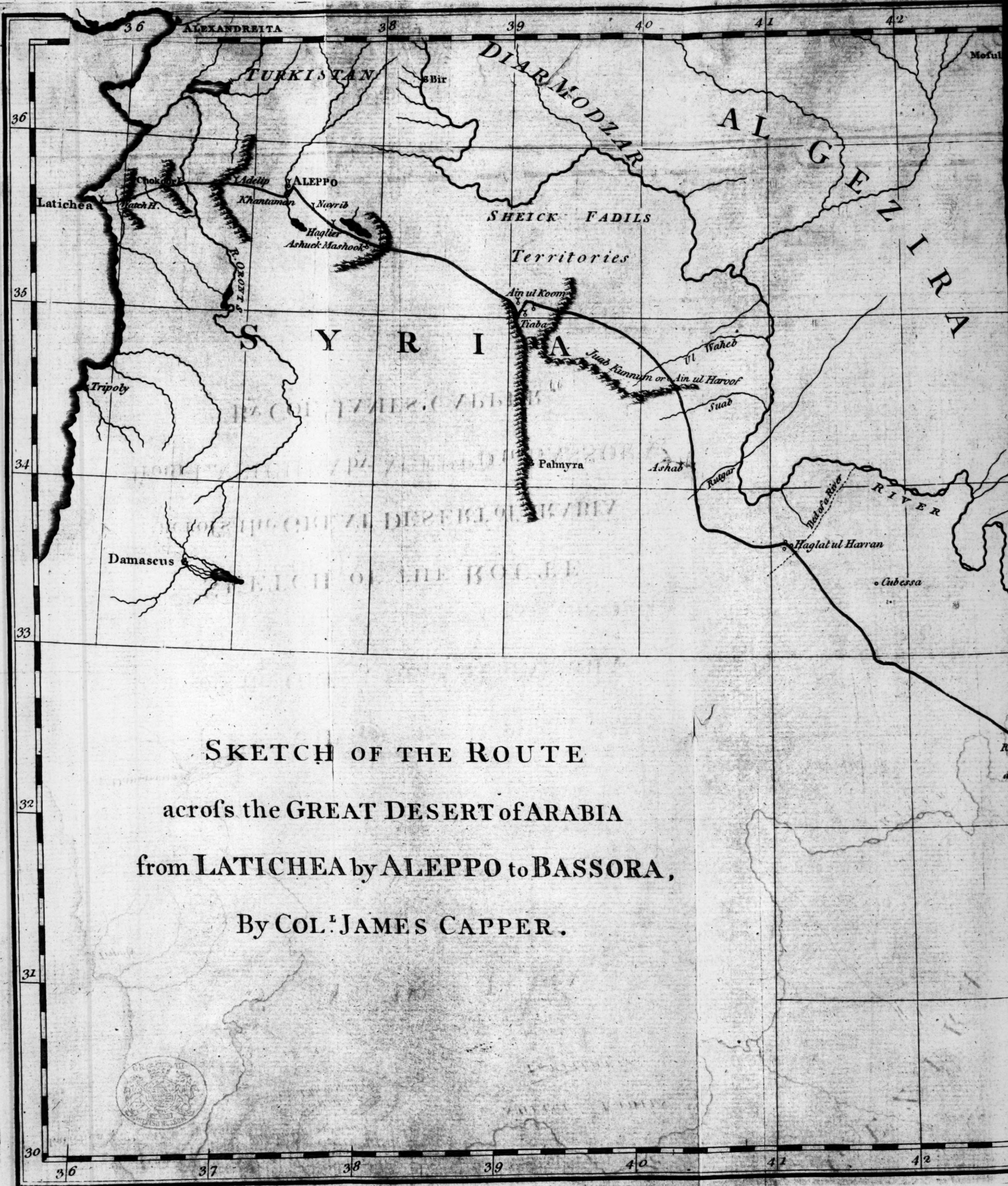
THEY had pitched their camp at the foot of the mountain, on each side the rivulet in the vale. Bylan is built on the slope or descent of a rock that hangs over the town. The site is at the termination of a cul de sac, formed by a dreadful chasm in the mountain. Before you through the aperture of the rock is the sea. To the right and left, rocks and hills of a great height. On the verge of the rock stood my dwelling, beside which ran a constant stream of water thence rushing down the precipice, and forming a pool in the valley underneath. A cool incessant breeze plays round the hills; I was charmed with the beauty of the scene. It is
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the retreat of those poor Europeans whose lot it is to live at Scanderoon for the purposes of trade. And a heaven it is contrasted with that hellish focus, of scorching heats and deadly fevers.

I LEFT Bylan on the 24th of August to return to Constantinople. My journey back varied only in the following instances. Instead of taking the road from Antioch to Sovadee, I came to Bylan, a ten hour's ride, partly upon the plain but chiefly among mountains. From Bylan I went to Byafs, seven hours, along the sea side, partly on the strand, and partly upon the rocks. From Byafs we continued along the sea shore nine hours to Kat Callah and from Kat Callah across the plain in twelve hours to Adena. Instead of going from Bulla Wadin to the hamlet I had digressed to in coming; I went to Cor-suff Bashta, and kept the high road all the way from Aleppo to Constantinople. I had dismissed my servant Matthew as an useless mobile, and had no companion but my sorry decrepid Tartar. I had great reason to lament and regret the absence of my honest friend Selim; but a lively fellow of a Bosnian Tartar, overtaking us upon the road beyond Conia, whip and spur, and giving me a challenge to go on with him; I left my
poor

poor wretch to take care of himself, and went
off full speed, travelling night and day to our
journey's end.







Longitude East from Greenwich

JOURNAL
ACROSS THE
GREAT DESERT,
FROM
BASSORA to ALEPPO.

By way of introduction to this journal I shall beg leave to premise, that if Government or the East India Company should have occasion to send dispatches by Bassora, after the season is past for transmitting them through Egypt; the most expeditious and least expensive manner, is by sending duplicates of the letters to our minister at Vienna, who will forward them to the minister at Constantinople: from thence one copy may be transmitted to Aleppo, and another to Bagdad, both of which in all probability will arrive at Bassora from England, in less than two months. The post from England to Vienna, and a courier

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rier to Constantinople, will travel faster and cheaper than any gentleman; as will also the Tartar couriers from thence to Aleppo and Bagdad; and when the letters contain any order or information of more than common importance; to ensure their safe arrival, a second set of duplicates may be sent to Vienna, and Constantinople, within a week after the departure of the first. But sometimes it may happen that a person must be sent by this route, not only to convey the orders to India, but also to carry them into execution; in which case he should consider whether he is equal to the fatigue of travelling all the way by land to Bassora; if not he should go from some of the ports in the Mediterranean to Latichea or Alexandretta by sea: the former is unquestionably the least subject to delays from wind and weather, but then it is also by much the most dangerous, fatiguing, and expensive; besides there are but few men who are able to bear the fatigue of riding post from Vienna to Constantinople, and from thence to Aleppo in the winter season; and the passage by sea may be greatly shortened by embarking at some of the ports in the S. E. part of Italy. Upon summing up therefore all these different reasons, we may reasonably conclude; that letters

ters should be sent to Baffora all the way by land; but that a gentleman had better go part of the way to Syria by sea. Two days only were allowed me to prepare for this journey, and therefore in the midst of settling my own private concerns, I had not leisure to consider what route I had best take; the orders given me were to go by Holland to Venice or Leghorn; in consequence of which I lost many days, which would have been saved if I had followed the abovementioned plan of going farther to the southward before I embarked.

It must be entirely unnecessary to give an account of my journey to Leghorn, the way to that city being so well known; suffice it to say then, that it was performed in eighteen days, notwithstanding I went round by Venice, and was detained near two days on the road; first by the post-master of Gorcum in Holland, who refused to give us horses to travel in the night; and afterwards by an accident happening to the carriage.

THE Consul at Leghorn on our arrival there, freighted a Ragusian snow of 220 tons to convey us to Latichea or Alexandretta, which was ready to receive us on the 27th of September 1778,

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but the wind being foul we did not go on board until the 29th at six in the evening. As this Journal is not intended as a direction for mariners, I shall put down the time according to the common way of reckoning, that is from twelve at night, and not according to the astronomical day, of twelve at noon.

ON the 29th of September, 1778: At night we stood out to sea, and got a tolerable good offing.

SEPTEMBER 30th. The wind S. E. blowing exceedingly hard all night: in the morning we saw a sail, and likewise the island of Caprara, bearing about east, distance seven miles, and the North end of Corfica W. S. W. The wind in the morning moderate.

OCTOBER 1st. Variable winds and calm, saw the island of Elba, bearing S. E. distant about six leagues, and the island of Pianosa S. by E. distance about nine leagues, the weather cloudy; in the evening the wind veered about to the E. S. E. no observation.

OCTOBER 2d. Variable winds and sometimes calm, saw the island of Monte Christo, bearing E. by S. distance seven leagues, and found a
current

current setting to the S. E. latitude observed
42. 9. N.

OCTOBER 3d. In the morning light airs,
and sometimes calm: in the evening began to
blow fresh from the S. W. increasing at night.

OCTOBER 4th. Continued blowing very fresh
till about ten o'clock, when all at once the wind
slackened, and for about an hour it became calm;
and then began to blow very hard from S. S. W.
we continued all night under close-reefed top-
sails.

OCTOBER 5th. Light airs and calm all the
day; in the night the wind freshened at S. by
E. latitude observed 40. 32.

OCTOBER 6th. Calm all the morning and
very hot weather; about two in the afternoon a
breeze sprung up from the S. S. W. with small
rain and very thick weather. In the night saw
a large Moorish vessel standing to the northward,
latitude observed 40. 21. N.

OCTOBER 7th. Wind at S. by E. blowing
very hard all the twenty-four hours, a prodi-
gious high sea, no observation.

OCTOBER 8th. Wind till twelve o'clock S.
by E. from thence to S. S. W. blowing very
D d 2 fresh

fresh and a heavy sea: saw a vessel in the afternoon standing to the N. W. latitude observed 40. 10. N.

OCTOBER 9th. Wind from S. to S. W. a fresh breeze and pleasant weather, latitude observed 39. 40.

OCTOBER 10th. Wind S. W. a fresh gale and pleasant weather, at day-light in the morning saw the island of Sicily, and the other islands near it; Lipari, Salini, Stromboli, &c. stood in shore till we were within about five miles of the land, and then stood off and on all night, no observation.

OCTOBER 11th. Wind S. S. W. rather a fresh breeze about two o'clock in the morning, made sail for the Pharo Messina, a pilot came alongside about seven in the morning, and took the ship through the entrance of the Pharo, which is about three miles broad. We passed within twenty yards or less of the shore of Sicily: the price of the pilotage is not fixed, but depends upon the weather, which being moderate, we paid only two chequins and a half; they often demand five, and sometimes twenty. Ever since the great plague at Messina, there has been a quarantine of seven days, even between the coast

coast of Calabria and Messina; the usual quarantine there from the Levant is at least forty days, and on the most trifling report of a plague, they will not permit any body to land; in which case most vessels go to Malta. The center of the channel bears about E. S. E. and W. N. W. the wind being favourable and the weather fair, I remained on deck the whole day to enjoy a succession of the most beautiful views I ever beheld, which would afford a variety of fine subjects for our best landscape painters. Off Reggio we saw two French xebèques lying at anchor, but they took no notice of us, nor of a Sicilian vessel, though neither of us shewed our colours. The Sicilian vessels always keep a boat a-stern, in order to enable the crew to make their escape if they should fall in with a Barbary corsair; in which case they always run the ship as near as possible to the shore, and taking to the boats, land and fly into the woods: we saw the top of Mount *Ætna* covered with smoke, but it has ceased emitting fire some years past. About six in the evening we got through the straits.

OCTOBER 12th. Wind N. W. a pleasant breeze and very fine weather, the southernmost part of Sicily in sight bearing S. W. and Cape
Spar-

Spartivento the southermost point of Italy N. N. W. distance about fourteen leagues. Saw and spoke with a very clean Ragusian vessel homeward bound from Genoa. Latitude observed 37. 25. N.

OCTOBER 13th. Wind S. W. by S. a light breeze and very smooth water, with fine clear weather, latitude observed 37. 8. N.

OCTOBER 14th. A light breeze from S. W. in the morning, which veered in the evening to S. by E. fine pleasant weather and a smooth sea, at eight at night saw an Aurora Borealis which continued exceedingly bright for more than an hour. Latitude observed 36. 34. N.

OCTOBER 15th. Wind from S. by W. to E. S. E. blew fresh and a confused sea, in the night the wind came round more to the southward, at eleven o'clock tacked, no observation.

OCTOBER 16th. Wind S. W. the first part of the day light breezes, increasing towards the evening to a moderate gale, rather hazy weather and a very heavy confused sea, latitude observed 36. 2. N.

OCTOBER 17th. Wind W. S. W. a fresh gale and pleasant weather for most part of the day ;

day; about noon a little squall of rain, latitude observed 35. 19. N.

OCTOBER 18th. Wind S. W. a fine fresh breeze, and hazy weather, about five in the morning one of the sailors fell off the main yard overboard; we hoisted out the boat and saved him after he had been twenty minutes in the water. At seven in the morning we saw three French ships, at ten spoke to one of them, they were all from Smyrna and bound to Marseilles, they sent a boat on board to enquire whether war was declared between England and France, but our Captain pleaded ignorance: to avoid being known I had assumed the dress of an Italian sailor and therefore passed unnoticed with the rest. At half past five in the evening saw the land bearing N. E. distant five leagues, we imagined it to be Goza off the N. E. end of Candia.

OCTOBER 19th. Wind W. S. W. a fine breeze and very pleasant weather, saw the island of Candia, at six in the evening Cape Soliman bearing N. N. W. distant about eight leagues, latitude observed 34. 44. N.

OCTOBER 20th. Wind N. increasing gale and pleasant weather, latitude observed 34. 34. N.

OCTOBER

OCTOBER 21st. Wind N. N. W. very light
airs and sometimes calm, latitude observed 34.
31. N.

OCTOBER 22d. Wind N. N. W. a light
breeze in the morning, all the evening calm,
latitude observed 34. 21. N.

OCTOBER 23d. Wind in the morning at N.
W. at three in the afternoon at W. by N. light
airs and rather increasing; in the evening, saw
the island of Cyprus, the next morning Cape
Baffa appeared bearing about N. E. distant about
twelve leagues, Cape Blanco N. by E. distant
five leagues, Cape Gatto E. by N. nine leagues.
Near Baffa was situated the ancient Paphos, of
which probably Baffa is only a corruption. In
the country near this Cape the women are still
remarkably beautiful, in other parts of the Island
they are rather plain. The Captain finding a
great and unexpected scarcity of water, deter-
mined to come to an anchor for a few hours at
Lernica in order to get a supply, latitude ob-
served 34. 22.

OCTOBER 24th. Wind S. W. blowing ra-
ther fresh from ten in the morning, found a
current setting W. S. W. it drove us twenty-
one miles in twenty-four hours, Cape Gatto N.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ E.

E. distant about five leagues, latitude observed 34. 36. At five in the evening arrived in the road of Lernica, the landing place bearing W. by S. and the flag of the English factory W. N. W. distant off shore about a mile and a half. Found lying here a French frigate from Malta; in the evening we went on shore to the Ragusan Consul's house, whom we enjoined strict secrecy, and obliged him before his servants to treat us as common sailors; we returned on board again about eight at night. The town is built as other common Turkish towns are, with bricks dried in the sun. After we went on shore, a boat from the French frigate went on board our vessel, but did not discover any thing relating to us. We saw the English Consul on shore, but he did not know us in our disguise of Italian sailors; and we did not make ourselves known to him, lest his servants might publish our arrival.

OCTOBER 25th. In the morning till about ten o'clock calm, then a light breeze sprang up from the E. S. E. at eleven the captain came on board with a Greek Pilot, and we weighed anchor with an increasing wind, saluted the French frigate when we got under way with five guns, she returned only one.

OCTOBER 26th. Wind variable mostly from the S. W. and frequently calm; in the night quite calm; at day-break saw part of the coast of Syria; in the evening at sun-set the mountains of Antioch distant about fifteen leagues, latitude observed 35. 2. N.

OCTOBER 27th. Light breeze at N. E. by N. Latichea bearing about N. E. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. about eight leagues distant. Stood off and on all night the wind being contrary, we could not get into port, and we began to be apprehensive that the captain of the French frigate would by some accident hear of our being on board, and follow to make us prisoners. Saw several lights on the shore in the night.

OCTOBER 28th. Light winds at N. E. Latichea bearing N. E. by E. in the evening came on board three French boats belonging to merchant vessels then laying in the harbour to assist us in getting in. At nine at night towed by the boats, we came to an anchor in eight fathom off the entrance of the port.

OCTOBER 29th. In the morning we went on shore to the house of Mr. Sciperas, English Vice Consul under Mr. Abbot at Aleppo, to whom
we

we sent a letter announcing our arrival, and informing him of our business.

The present city of Latichea lies about a quarter of a mile from the old port, which in its pristine state must have been a most expensive and magnificent work, but is now in ruins; and the ground like that of the new port of Alexandria, so foul from the blocks of marble and stone that are fallen into it, as to destroy the cables of ships. The adjacent country was once famous for producing excellent wine, but there is none made now; which as the country still produces abundance of grapes, and the Mahomedans would not object to their being made into wine; can only be imputed to the ignorance or the indolence of the Christians and Jews, who together constitute the major part of the inhabitants. The tobacco of this country is in very high esteem with the Turks and Arabians, and is now produced in such quantities as supply the greatest part of the Turkish empire; it is particularly sent to Damietta in Egypt, where it is exchanged for coffee that comes thither from Mocha, and also for the rice that grows in the Delta. Was this country under a good government, and were the inha-

bitants inclined to be industrious; with the advantages they have of a fertile soil, and a fine climate, they might possess not only every comfort, but also every luxury this world produces: a remark indeed! equally applicable to almost the whole of the Turkish empire, which is unquestionably the finest part, at least of the old world. Where nature has been so bounteous, it is a pity her choicest gifts have been so badly bestowed.

OCTOBER 30th. We remained at Latichea getting our baggage on shore, and settling accounts with the captain. What leisure time we had both this day and the next was spent in walking about the city, and examining the environs of it, in which there are many noble monuments of antiquity in a very ruinous state: towards the S. E. part of the present city is a large triumphal arch, supported on columns of the Corinthian order, and which now makes part of a mosque: the architrave is adorned with antient military trophies, and there are many Greek inscriptions about the different parts of the building; but these have probably been much defaced by the Mahomedans. About half a mile north of the city we saw several sepulchral chambers, in which many stone
coffins

coffins are deposited in small niches exactly made to receive them. In the center of one of these vaults is a spring, the water of which is said to produce very miraculous effects; not only curing all sorts of disorders, but also enduing people with the gift of highland second sight; the Greeks call it the cavern of St. Tecla.

SATURDAY, November 1st. At eight o'clock in the morning we sat out for Aleppo on horseback, with mules to carry the baggage, and escorted by two Janizaries; the first part of the road was a strong uneven country: about ten o'clock we crossed a rivulet, and in the forenoon began to enter the hills which are covered with wood; the road through them is narrow, and the ascents and descents are steep, but the horses being sure-footed and accustomed to the road, we met not with the least accident; the soil is a kind of chalk, and large loose stones: the harvest and vintage had been over some time, but the peasants brought us some grapes they were drying for their winter stock. At three in the afternoon the muleteers stopped near a small hovel, where they demanded a kafar of four dollars; the distance from Latichea I should suppose to be about twenty-five miles. As there was
no

no house near we were obliged to sleep in the open air by the road side.

NOVEMBER 2d. At two in the morning we proceeded on our journey, and stopped about noon at the town of Chokoor, commonly called Shogre, where the governor ordered us to halt for the night. The caravan^{era} being dirty we passed through the town, and lay in an open field to the S. E. of the town, on the banks of the river Orontes. On this day's journey we passed over many chalk hills reflecting a very strong heat, but the road was much better than that we had passed over the preceding day: we saw both to the right and to the left of us many considerable towns and some villages, the inhabitants of which brought us great variety of grapes. The town of Chokoor is situated on the West side of the river Orontes, and is surrounded by a very beautiful country. A man who called himself a catholic priest, but dressed like a Turk, and who spoke no European language, offered us an apartment in his house in the town; but we preferred the field in order to get away early in the morning, before the gates would be opened. The moon shining exceedingly bright, at midnight we began to prepare for our departure; but

but were detained by a fresh order from the Governor, who sent us word he had information of some Bedouins being in the road; and that in the morning he should send a guard with some money to Aleppo, who would also escort us.

NOVEMBER 3d. About four o'clock we left Chokoor, accompanied by a large caravan, and escorted by horse and foot. At six in the morning we came to a kind of custom-house, where they receive the kafar; at which place the people made us halt and dismount, till the whole caravan came up to pass the hills together. We were told the Arabs were posted among the hills in the front, however we saw nothing of them; two Turkish horsemen exceedingly well mounted and armed, who composed a part of our guard, advanced in front with us to reconnoitre. We were about an hour in passing the hills; the road over them was exceedingly bad, but afterwards we went through a very fine country, where we saw a great variety of vines, and also fig and olive trees. About three o'clock we stopped at the town of Adelip, or Eidlip, at a small house in the suburbs: our comrades the Turkish soldiers had interest enough in the town to get us a very excellent pilo and some fruit, of which without
much

much entreaty we prevailed on them to partake; we found them very sociable and useful companions; one of them had served against the Russians, and gave us a very good account of the war.

NOVEMBER 4th. At two in the morning we proceeded on our journey over a very stoney road, and kept a few hundred yards in front of the caravan, until we arrived at Khantaman; and then about nine o'clock in the morning advanced by ourselves over a hilly and stoney country to Aleppo. We got thither in about two hours and a half, and our baggage arrived about two hours after us. Some Arabs on bad horses seeing us without any attendance, endeavoured to terrify us with an account of there being plunderers on the road, but no person attempted to molest us; however Mr. Abbot informed us we had been imprudent in quitting our guards.

To attempt giving a description of a place so well known as Aleppo would be ridiculous, especially as we had but little leisure for observation. Dr. Ruffel who resided many years in this city, has written a full and accurate account of it, which I would recommend to the perusal of every person who wishes to be acquainted either

ther with the natural history of the country, or the manners and customs of the inhabitants. I shall principally confine myself to a detail of our own proceedings.

UPON our arrival we waited on Mr. Consul Abbot who very kindly invited us to take up our residence in his house. When a stranger comes to remain any time in the city, it is customary for every European gentleman in the place to pay him a visit, which of course must be returned; but as we were only sojourners, Mr. Abbot had prevailed on them to dispense with this ceremony with respect to us. He however constantly invited company to his house every day, by which means we had the pleasure of seeing all the ladies and gentlemen of the place. The language most in use amongst the Europeans is the Italian; however most of them speak also the French and English, and many of the ladies are conversant in modern Greek, Turkish, and Arabic. The European languages they acquire from each other, the Greek from the women servants, and Arabic from the inhabitants of the country and their men servants. Even the children speak the major part of these languages with fluency and correctness. The Eu-

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ropeans

ropeans by a general subscription have built a small theatre, which they have fitted up with great taste. During the winter season they perform French and Italian comedies, and even sometimes attempt operas with very great success; they politely offered to exhibit some little piece to amuse us, but the house being dismantled for the summer, we could not stay long enough for them to make the necessary preparations. We declined accepting all invitations of either dinners or suppers, but Monsieur Perdreux, the French consul, would not hear of a refusal, he insisted upon our meeting a small private party, which he entertained with great elegance and good humour.

THE consuls of all nations always wear the European dress, but the gentlemen of the factories generally put on the Benish or long Turkish robe, with a hat and wig, which has an uncouth not to say a ridiculous appearance. Surely it would be both more convenient and becoming, either to confine themselves to the European cloaths, or else to adopt entirely those of the Turks. The custom of wearing the hat in the room with the ladies, strikes a stranger also as being very extraordinary; but this is done in
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compliance with the opinions of the Mahomedans, who deem it indecent to appear with the head uncovered.

As there was no caravan likely to set out for Bassora, the Consul was obliged to form a light caravan expressly for us. He at first agreed with an Arabian Sheick or Chief for an escort of forty men to set out in a few days, and the Sheick as usual was to furnish camels for carrying ourselves, our baggage and provisions; but a Jew merchant hearing of our intention, offered to double the escort, provided we would take thirty camels loaded with goods for him to Graine. After some deliberation his proposals were agreed to, on condition that he would also send two camels for each load of goods; these points being settled, a new agreement was drawn up with the Sheick, of which the following is a literal translation.

*Translation of a contract with the Sheick
Suliman for an escort of Arabs across
the Great Desert from Aleppo to Bassora.*

“ THIS writing is to certify, that we the underwritten of the tribe of Arabs Nigadi, have

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of

of our own free will agreed to accompany and conduct the bearer of this contract, Colonel Capper, an Englishman, and those of his company: and that we oblige ourselves to take with us seventy guards of the tribes of Arabs Nigadi, and Agalli, and Benni Khaled, who are all to be armed with muskets: we the underwritten are included in the number, excepting Sheick Haggi Suliman Eben Adeyeh.—And we do promise also to carry with us nine refeeks with their muskets, two of whom of the two different tribes called Edgeless, two of the two tribes of Il Fedaan, one of the tribe of Welled Aly, one of the tribe of Benni Waheb, one of the tribe of Lacruti, one of the tribe of Baigee, and one of the tribe of Sarhaani, making in all nine refeeks as above-mentioned.

AND it is agreed, that we the underwritten are to bring with us our own provisions for the guards and refeeks above-mentioned, and the same provisions are to be loaded upon our camels, the hire of which camels is to be paid by us; and we likewise agree to buy ourselves thirteen rotolas of gunpowder, and twenty-six rotolas of balls, the cost of all the aforesaid things are to be paid by us, and not by Colonel Capper.

AND

AND we also oblige ourselves to provide for him and his people nineteen camels, for the use of himself and his company, to carry their tents and baggage, water and provisions for themselves and for their horses, besides those nineteen camels above-mentioned; we also oblige ourselves to provide them two other strong camels to carry the mohafa, in order that they may change every day one camel, and to provide a person to lead the camel that carries the mohafa from Aleppo to Graine, and moreover we will appoint him a person to take care of his horses.

WE the underwritten do promise Colonel Capper, by our own free will and consent, and oblige ourselves to pay all kafars and giawayez (that is to say duties) to all the Arabs, and to the Sheick Tamur, the Sheick Tiveini, and all the Sheicks of the tribe of Beni Khaled, and to all other tribes of Arabs whatever; and we make ourselves responsible for all what is above-written, and further when we approach the tribe of Arabs called Il Aslam, and Shammer and any other tribes, we oblige ourselves to take from them a refeek to walk with us till we have passed their confines,

WE

WE agree to carry no goods, or even letters from any other person or persons, excepting the goods from Khwaja Rubens, which are thirty-one loads, for the hire of the said goods from Khwaja Rubens we have received in full, that is, the hire, the inamalumi, the refeeks, the giawayez, figmaniah, and all other expences to Graine; we have received of him in full, according to the receipt in the hands of the said Khwaja Rubens: moreover we have agreed with our free will to provide for the said thirty-one loads, for every load two camels, in order to keep up with the above-mentioned Colonel Capper, and never separate from his company till our arrival at Graine; and we also oblige ourselves to pay the dolleels (scouts) the maadeb, the birakdar, and the chaous (officers of the guards) all the said persons we are to pay ourselves, and not Colonel Capper. We have agreed also with our free will, with the said Colonel Capper, to carry him and his company safe in thirty-six days to Graine, from the day we depart from the village of Nayreb; but in case the said Colonel Capper should be desirous of staying to rest a day or more the said delay is not to be reckoned in the afore-said thirty-six days. And we the underwritten also engage three days before our arrival at Graine,

to

to dispatch a messenger from our parts with Colonel Capper's letter to the agent of the British nation in Graine. And by this instrument it is stipulated and agreed between the said Colonel Capper and us the underwritten persons, that he pays us for all the services above-mentioned dollars nine hundred forty-one and one fourth in Aleppo, which sum we have received in full; besides which the said Colonel Capper does oblige himself to give us on the road dollars five hundred; and moreover on our safe arrival at Graine, on our having fulfilled this our agreement with him, he the said Colonel Capper obliges himself to pay us dollars eight hundred rumi, and in case we should fail in performing any part of our agreement with him, we then are to forfeit the last-mentioned eight hundred dollars, and all we the underwritten are responsible one for the other, for the performance of the promises as above agreed between the contracting parties. In witness whereof, we have signed with our fingers this the sixteenth day of the moon called Shewal, in the year of the Hegira, one thousand one hundred and ninety-two.

Suliman Ebben Adeyah—Mohamed il Bifshir
—Ally Ebben Faddil—Haggy Isa Ebben Ham-
meidan

meidan—Naffeh Ebn Resheidan—Suliman Ebben Gaddib—Mohamed Ebn Nidghem—Suliman Ebben Naaisay.

The witnesses to the agreement are.

Il Haggi Omar Ulleed—Ismael Efracy—Il Haggi Mahomed Firous—Il Haggi Ibrahim Ulbed—Il Haggi Mahomed Emin il Takrity—Il Haggi Fathu Ebn il Haggi Usuph Maadara-loy—Ismael Ebben Achmed Tecrity.

IN this manner all caravans that cross the great desert are formed; that is to say, an Arab Sheick or Chief of known good character and great experience, engages a certain number of refeeks or associates to join with him in furnishing the merchants of the different cities with camels, to transport their goods from one place to another; and also each of the refeeks engages to bring a certain number of armed men to ensure the safety of the caravan across the desert. The refeeks are taken from different tribes, in order to lessen the risque of being attacked; for each of them carries the colour or ensign belonging to his tribe, all which colours are displayed upon the appearance of a party on the desert; and if the party belongs to the same tribe as any of the refeeks,

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the principal Sheick or Chief of each tribe, having generally half of what each reseek receives from the merchants; the caravan of course passes unmolested. The first-mentioned Sheick reserves to himself the executive power and command in chief of the caravan; but in cases where there is time for deliberation, a council of all the reseeks is called, and the point in debate is settled by a majority of voices.

MANY travellers give the Arabs an exceeding bad character, representing them as a faithless and rapacious people, in whom no confidence can be reposed. I confess they do not appear to me in that light; they certainly like most men endeavour to make the best bargain they can for themselves; but for my own part, I never found them inclined to exact more than was justly their due. My reasons for thinking favorably of them will appear in the course of my journal.

ON the 10th of ~~October~~^{November}, in the morning our baggage, servants, and camels left Aleppo; and in the morning of the same day we took leave of our friends, and I am sure on our parts, not without very sensible concern at leaving such an agreeable society. We found our encampment at the village of Nayreb, about six miles from

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Aleppo,

Aleppo, where the Consul had sent his servant with a supper; we passed the night in an Arabian house as agreeably as could be expected all circumstances considered.

ON the 11th, at day-break in the morning the Consul assembled all the principal Arabs, our servants, and in short all our dependants; and having given them his final instructions with positive commands to treat us with the greatest respect, he and his brother returned to Aleppo. Mr. Shaw, one of his clerks stayed to go another stage with us, in order that we might by his means be supplied with any thing we might have forgotten, whilst we were in the neighbourhood of Aleppo. At seven in the morning, we marched, and in nine hours arrived at the ruined village of Haglier; at the distance of about two miles from it we saw a salt water lake, the length of which appeared to be upwards of ten miles, to the right were some hills not very high. About two miles from Haglier we passed a large village of houses, shaped like bee-hives, near to which we met about fifty Arab horsemen, but they did not offer to molest us: the road was good all the way, at four o'clock in the evening we encamped on a hill,

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NOVEMBER 12th. We remained at Haglier to get water and feed the camels, so that they might travel two or three days without a fresh supply. As my valet de chambre was sick, I endeavoured to prevail on him to return to Aleppo, but he being violently against it, I did not send him away; however at the same time not to be distressed for a servant I prevailed on Mr. Shaw to leave his man an Armenian who was accustomed to travelling, and who agreed to go with us for one hundred dollars and his expences paid back. Mr. Shaw left us about four o'clock in the afternoon, we had a little rain about eleven o'clock, the wind at S. W. In the evening we were joined by a small caravan going to Bagdad. Our own party to pass the desert now consisted of Major Thomson, whom I met at Aleppo in his way to India; Mr. C. Dighton who accompanied me from Europe; Jean Cadeo a Frenchman my valet de chambre; Babeck a cook hired at Aleppo; and Mr. Shaw's servant an Armenian, eighty armed Arabs, ten of which were Sheicks or Chiefs, and the rest their servants and dependants. Khawja Rubens agreeably to his promise sent sixty-two camels for thirty-one loads, and we had nineteen camels for carrying our tents, provisions and water, besides two al-

ternately to carry a mohafa. We began our first day's journey upon camels, to see how we liked their motion. The walk we found disagreeable, and at first a great strain on the loins and back, but the amble is like the same pace of a large horse and not unpleasant. Cadeo being ill was put into the mohafa.

NOVEMBER 13th. At day break we struck the tents and began to load the camels, but did not get away from the ground till eight o'clock, when all the caravan began to move: for the first three hours and a half the road was tolerably good; to the left we saw the S. E. end of the same salt lake we had seen before. About seventeen miles from Haglier and two miles to the right of the road perceiving some ruins we went to look at them, and found the shell or outer wall of a church built of strong black granite without cement; there were four large arches that appeared to have been windows, three to the southward and one to the eastward. Near to this building were also the remains of a very large town; the Arabs said it had been in ruins time immemorial, and was called Ashuck Mashook. At a quarter before three we stopped upon a rising ground, the mountain of Diaram in sight bearing

hearing about W. by N. distant about three miles. On the top of it appeared to be a ruined building, where there is said to be a well of exceeding good water, and much frequented by thieves. We saw five Antelopes but could not approach near enough to get a shot at them.

NOVEMBER 14th. It rained the greatest part of the day, little wind from S. W. at five in the morning we marched and passed over an uneven country, the soil of which is a red gravelly sand full of holes made by rats and snakes; we saw also several snakes skins. At two o'clock it began to grow cloudy and thunder to the S. W. about four o'clock in the afternoon the storm broke upon us with a hard shower of rain, which continued some time, and obliged us to pitch our tents in a place where there was the appearance of a caravan of camels having been lately encamped. The usual mode of encamping is as follows; when the caravan comes to the ground, the camels which carry the tent the provisions and the baggage are drawn up in the centre, and those with the bales of merchandize form an outer circle round them, by which means their loading makes a kind of rampart; and the camels themselves having one of their fore legs tied up
form

form another outer circle round the goods: but when there is pasture for the camels as there was this day for the first time since we left Haglier, after being unloaded they are turned loose to browse, and before it is dark one of the drivers goes out and makes a noise somewhat like that made by our herdsmen in calling the cows; on hearing which all the camels come up to him on a full trot, and return to the camp where they are tied together to prevent their straying in the night. Our course this day was nearly E. S. E.

20 NOVEMBER 15th. It rained all night, nevertheless at six in the morning we marched, but were obliged to halt again at three in the afternoon; we passed this day over a clay and sandy soil that was very slippery, on which grew furze and long grass. We killed two snakes about seven feet long and saw a large flight of wild ducks, which came from the S. W. and flew towards the N. W. our camp was situated in a bottom surrounded with small hills; on the summit of one to the N. E. is a white building which our Arabs told us was erected by a man to the memory of his horse which died near that spot, after having saved him from falling into the hands of some Bedouins by whom he was pursued.

pursued. About four o'clock we had an alarm and our people took to their arms, the persons suspected proved to be our own scouts!

NOVEMBER 16th. The rain continued the greatest part of last night, and the wind blew pretty fresh from the S. W. At six in the morning the wind changing to due west it cleared up, and at seven we marched. We passed over an hilly uneven country, the soil nearly the same as yesterday. About nine in the morning we saw six ostriches at the distance from us of about half a mile. At one o'clock found the remains of a dead body, the head entire with some of the hair upon it, one of the arms and both the legs gone, and no flesh on the carcase; about two hundred yards further lay a blue Arab jacket, our people supposed it to be the body of a courier sent from Bagdad with dispatches for Aleppo, who had been some time missing. A little after two in the afternoon we halted and encamped upon a plain surrounded by small hills. Our Sheick went to the top of the highest to look out for Arabs, but saw none; he also in the evening sent two scouts to the next watering place, which is about fourteen miles distant, where we are to halt to-morrow to take in a fresh supply of water.

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NOVEMBER 17. We began our march at a quarter past seven in the morning, very fine weather, sent out scouts, and quitted the direct road to prevent falling in with an enemy. We proceeded over a very uneven country, the soil the same as yesterday. About twelve o'clock we saw the remains of a very large encampment which alarmed our Sheick, and made him collect the caravan to march in close order; about two o'clock three horsemen appeared on the top of a hill to the right of us. We drew up the men who began their war dance, throwing their muskets over their heads and shouting with great vociferation. As we advanced the horsemen retreated, we showed our colours and they displayed theirs, on which our Sheick said they were not irreconcilable enemies. We drew off to the right, and encamped in a strong post, flanked by two marshes, and covered in the rear by a small hill, on which we stationed ten men: from this hill we could plainly perceive at the distance of about three miles, an immense body of Arabs, which as they had their families and flocks with them, looked like the encampment of the Patriarchs: they first sent out a detachment of about four hundred men towards us, but finding we were drawn up to receive them, five men only advanced

ed from their main body, seemingly with an intention to treat; on seeing which we also sent five of our people to meet them. A short conference ensued, and then both parties came to our camp and were received with great ceremony by our Sheick; they proved to be Bedouins under the command of Sheick Fadil, amounting altogether including men, women and children to near twenty thousand. After much negotiation our Sheick agreed to pay a tribute of one chequin for every camel carrying merchandize; but he refused to pay any thing for those that carried our tents, baggage, and provisions: these terms settled, the Bedouins promised to send a reseek with us, until we were past all danger of being molested by any of their detached parties. To the southward of us, and about four miles distant we could plainly perceive the ruined city of Tiaba; but the Sheick advised us not to visit it, lest we should be attacked by some stragglers from the Bedouin camp. *Palmina*, or as the Arabs call it *Tadmor*, is said to be forty-five miles S. of this place, over the hills.

NOVEMBER 18th. Sheick Suliman not having settled with the Bagdad caravan, what portion of the Bedouins demand they should pay,

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we remained at the same encampment. The Bedouins brought some camels to sell, for the best of which they asked twelve chequins; our people purchased one and killed it to eat, the flesh of the camel being esteemed a dainty; the division of it occasioned many disputes among them, nor was it without some difficulty they were prevented by their Sheicks from fighting for it. One of the Bedouins who was sick, being informed we were Europeans, came to ask our advice as physicians; we told him we had no medicines with us, but would write down his case, and if he would carry our prescription to Aleppo, the gentleman there would give him what was proper to cure him. We accordingly wrote the letter, and the brother of the patient set out with it next morning express, promising to deliver it in two days and a half. These Bedouins are almost the only tribe of Arabs, who live according to the primitive simplicity of their ancestors; they never sleep in houses, nor even enter a town or city, unless to purchase what they want, or to sell what they have to dispose of. They acknowledge no superior but their own Sheicks, nor do they like most other tribes pay a tribute to any of the Bashaws belonging to the Ottoman government. In the summer
season

season when the wells and ponds in the desert are almost dry, for the convenience of feeding and watering their camels and sheep, they always keep near the banks of some great river: but after the rains they move about from one place to another, seldom remaining on one spot longer than a week. They compel every person they meet with to pay them a tribute; but are seldom guilty of cruelty, unless they are resisted, and any of their companions are killed; in which case they are very vindictive. The year before they fell in with us, they attacked and plundered a caravan going from Damascus to Bagdad; but their victory cost them dear, which perhaps made them more readily listen to overtures of peace from us.

NOVEMBER 19th. We marched at half after seven in the morning, and about a mile to the eastward of our camp passed by a spring of warm water, which in colour, taste, and also in heat, greatly resembles that of the Bristol Wells. It is called by the Arabs Ain ul Koum: our Sheikh told us there was once an aqueduct to convey this water from the fountain head, to an ancient ruined city about fourteen miles from thence;
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called Kesser al Ackwien, or Gussur ul Bain*, but we saw no traces of it; soon after passing the well we had a good view of Tiaba, which we saw to the southward at the distance of three miles. The ground we passed over this day was a tolerable good mould, and capable of producing many kinds of grain. About the distance mentioned by our Sheikh, and rather more than a mile to the right of the road we saw Kesser ul Ackwien, which accompanied by our Sheikh we went to examine. The building is divided into two squares, and a passage between them of about fifty paces wide, each face of the largest square is about two hundred and fifty yards long, and thirty feet high; there are round towers at the distance of forty yards from each other, the gate is in the centre of the west front, and a small round tower on both sides of the gate. In the interior part of the largest square there is the ruin of a building, and near to it a subterraneous passage that leads to a kind of a cave or cel-

* None of these Arabs are able to write, the pronunciation of the names of places on the desert therefore being arbitrary and extremely different, it is almost impossible to ascertain their proper denomination. Many of the ruins are by the Arabs said to have been built by a Kesser, which certainly implies some of the Cafars, but the other name is generally too much disguised to be known.

lar. In the S. E. angle of the square was a portico of the Corinthian order entire, and the shafts of some other columns lying on the ground, the bases and capitals of which we could not find. The walls are built of a kind of Bath stone, and the smaller square of the same materials; the inside of the small square is a continuation of arches in a ruinous state; round the top of the walls of both the squares is a kind of a parapet made of small bricks and mortar, but we could perceive no cement between the stones of the lower wall. We were prevented taking any particular plan or view of this place by the appearance of some strange Arabs. These ruins and many others in sight of this place, are probably remains of towns and villages, formerly dependant on Palmira. About three o'clock we halted upon a rising ground, the Bedouins brought some more camels to sell, but we did not purchase any of them. Our course this day was about S. E.

NOVEMBER 20th. It seems the Sheick expected to be attacked by the Arabs we saw yesterday near Kesser ul Ackwien, and for that reason kept the centries very alert all night. At seven this morning we marched over rather a plain

plain country, the soil a light white loam, with rank dried grass growing on it in clumps; this day we saw a great number of hares and rabbits, of which we killed several; at three o'clock we halted, when the caravan came first to the ground there were a number of antelopes in sight, which immediately fled on our appearance, and we saw no more of them*. In the evening Sheick Suliman desired a hundred and five dollars to settle his own accounts with Sheick Fadil. Weather fair, the wind at S. S. W. course S. E. saw two flocks of sheep and goats, bought one sheep for seven dollars, which we killed immediately, and it proved to be very fat and good; buried without any funeral ceremony an Arab of our party who died yesterday.

NOVEMBER 21st. We marched at seven this morning over a plain country of light clay, with a kind of fern and furze growing upon it, amongst which we shot some hares and rabbits. The Arabs dressed a hare for us in the following manner. They dug a hole about two feet deep in the

* A person travelling for curiosity or pleasure should carry with them hawks or greyhounds, and they might catch plenty of game; which would be an amusement, and at the same time very convenient.

ground,

ground, large enough to contain the hare at full length, which they filled with furze, and then set it on fire; after the first parcel of furze was consumed, they put in a second, and then a third, until the hole was almost as hot as an oven: then they put in the last parcel of furze, and without drawing or skinning the hare, they placed it on the fire until the flame was extinguished: at last they covered up the hare with the mould, which had been heaped upon the edge of the hole, so as to be heated by the fire, and thus they left it until it was sufficiently baked. The Arabs eat skin and flesh together; but we contented ourselves with the flesh only, which we thought a very savory dish. We arrived at our ground, where we encamped about four in the afternoon, our course was S. E. easterly.

NOVEMBER 22d. Marched at seven this morning, and in the course of the day passed two hills, but on the whole the country was tolerably plain, we crossed one place that had the appearance of being the bed of a river, but our people differed about its name; the soil in general was a kind of light clay with stones. We shot some hares amongst the furze. At half after

after, three came to our ground at a place called Ain ul Haroof or Juab Kunnum; we found a well in a bottom and rather deep, the water of which was muddy; weather fair and exceedingly hot, at noon the wind N. W. course S. E.

NOVEMBER 23d. Marched at seven this morning over an uneven country, the soil, shrubs, &c. the same as yesterday; about twelve o'clock we passed the bed of a river about one hundred and twenty yards wide from the appearance of the weeds and shrubs that grew in it, the water ran from the N. E. to the S. W. it is called Suab, and is said to be impassable after heavy rains. We killed some hares, but saw not so many as for some preceding days; we also saw some Antelopes and Ostriches but at a great distance. In the morning cloudy to the eastward, when the sun rose the sky looked wild; in the middle of the day the weather was exceedingly hot and in the evening cool, wind about S. E. our course S. E. halted at three in the afternoon: the Arabs when the wind blows from this quarter always cover their mouths with a piece of their turbans.

NOVEMBER 24th. Marched at seven this morning over a very uneven stoney country. At twelve halted a few minutes at the bed of a river called

called Rutgur. About one o'clock came in sight of some hills called Manget, they bore about S. E. the country we travelled over till we halted was rather plain and the soil a light mould. Stopped at half after four, the wind N. N. E. the weather fair and the middle of the day very hot, saw a few hares, sent out three scouts to reconnoitre the next watering place, at the distance of three days journey, course S. E.

NOVEMBER 25th. Marched at seven this morning, and at noon the Bagdad caravan separated from us to proceed to the place of its destination, they expected to come in sight of the Euphrates the next day in the evening; we were very happy to part with them, for they doubtless detained us very much, but we could not get rid of them without quarrelling with the Sheick, who certainly made them pay convoy money. The soil of the country much the same as yesterday, caught a few hares; about twelve o'clock passed the bed of a river, halted a quarter before five in the afternoon. Whilst we kept with the Bagdad caravan, I believe we travelled only at the rate of two miles an hour, but afterwards I reckon at the rate of two miles and a half an hour. Our course this day was S. E. by E.

NOVEMBER 26th. Last night was a frost, and the air exceedingly cold, in the morning the wind W. N. W. marched at seven, about eight o'clock saw on a hill to the right of us the appearance of a ruin, but we were advised not to go to examine it. The country we passed over very much the same as yesterday, caught some hares, halted at four o'clock on the bank of a bed of a rivulet that overflows in the rainy season.

NOVEMBER 27th. Marched at seven this morning, the soil of the country we passed over was composed of hard sand and flints, we saw some hills to the left of us that had the appearance of stone, and about three in the afternoon passed by a deep pit, that looked as if it had been a stone quarry. At five in the evening halted at Haglet ul Havran, where we found a great number of wells near the surface. When the camels came within half a mile of the place they began of their own accord to run as fast as they could, which the Arabs said was owing to their smelling the water, but I am rather inclined to believe some of the camels knew the place: this was the fifth day they had not drank. The appearance of a large encampment having
lately

lately left this place, alarming the Sheick he talked of going the next morning towards Meshed Aly, which he says is seven or eight days journey from hence. In the morning the weather very cloudy, and the wind at E. but it cleared up towards the evening, and at night it was a frost, course E. S. E.

NOVEMBER 28th. Remained near the wells till nine o'clock in the morning that the camels might drink a sufficient quantity of water; to last them three or four days; at half after nine began our march, we passed over a barren country, and halted at five o'clock, about a quarter after ten o'clock in the morning, we passed the bed of a deep rivulet, when we got over on the other side, we were met by one of our people who had been at Cubessa to learn news: he brought word that Bassora was certainly evacuated by the Persians, and in the possession of the Arabs; also that Mahomed Khulleel an Arab, but a professed deist who had assembled a large body of troops to attack and destroy Mecca, had been defeated by the troops and allies of the Sherreef. The other scout did not return with the camels, this man came on foot to us, and said he did not know where his comrade was gone: in conse-

quence of the Bassora news, the Sheick promised us we should go to Bassora instead of Graine. About twelve o'clock the wind began to blow very strong from the N. W. which produced cloudy weather and some rain; halted about half past three o'clock in the evening, course E. S. E.

NOVEMBER 29th. The wind continued to blow violently and exceedingly cold; we marched at half after seven, passed over a barren country, saw to the right of us, at a considerable distance flock of sheep: when we first perceived them they were near the summit of a hill, which made them look large, and gave them the appearance of a party of horse. About three o'clock we came to a country covered with furze, the same as we had seen before; caught a few hares, stopt at half after four o'clock in the evening: our Shei k who had intelligence of some Arabs being on the road, sent two men to a village to gain further information about them; the man who returned on foot went again on a camel to search for his comrade, the wind continued blowing hard all this day from the N. W. course S. E.

NOVEMBER 30th. Marched at half past seven this morning, the wind blowing at N. W. exceedingly

ceedingly cold, we passed over an uneven country with some few hills of white stone: the soil in general a sand, and some few hills of white clay, which must be very slippery in wet weather, and consequently dangerous to travel over upon a camel; to the N. E. of us we saw a hill that had the appearance of a ruin. One of the scouts returned and brought advice that there were some Arabs near the watering place where we intended to halt the next day, we therefore determined to go another way towards the village of Rahaly; saw three eagles soaring in the air, course S. E. by E.

DECEMBER 1st. In the middle of last night a man came and confirmed the report of our scouts, he said he was sent by one of our people, but we detained him lest he should be employed by an enemy: about two o'clock we turned off due S. to avoid the above-mentioned Arabs. In the first part of the day we marched over a considerable space of ground that is overflowed in the rains; we afterwards met with many different kinds of soil, but principally gravel. About four in the afternoon we saw some hills of white sand to the eastward of us, near which the Sheick says, there is exceeding good water,
but

but we kept to the southward to avoid meeting the Arabs. At noon saw a large herd of goats; this evening two men came into our camp dressed in the skins of antelopes, whose principal business is to kill those animals, and to carry their skins to the adjacent towns to sell. Halted at six in the evening, about ten miles from Rahaly, which we should have reached this night if we had not been obliged to go so much to the southward; the wind westward, the morning and the evening cool, the middle of the day exceedingly hot, the weather fair.

DECEMBER 2d. Marched at seven this morning, after travelling about three hours and a half over loose sand, came in sight of two large clumps of trees; we drew up the men in good order to march to the town of Rahaly, which is situated in the middle of a large plain, and surrounded by a vast number of date trees: about three quarters of a mile to the N. W. of the place, are two large ponds of clear water, which are supplied by springs. We first halted near these ponds, but the Sheick advised us to move nearer the town. It is said to contain five or six thousand inhabitants who carry on a considerable trade with the city of Bagdad, particularly

larly in dates. The commandant or Arab governor, upon our arrival sent us a present of preserved dates and bread. We saw several large flocks of sheep and goats, and bought a sheep for four dollars; they asked half a dollar apiece for small fowls, which it seems are very scarce: the trees in the neighbourhood of the town seem to cover a space of near six miles, but there is no pasture for the cattle, excepting some fern that grows between the trees; the soil is a light sand, which perhaps is the reason the people in general have bad eyes, for when the wind blows violently from the S. E. it raises the sand, and is said to affect their health as well as their eyes; the sumyel or poisonous wind that blows in July and August comes from that quarter. Early in the morning about a dozen of those people who live by catching of antelopes came into our camp; in language as well as in features, they appear to be a very distinct people from any Arabs I ever saw, by whom they are treated in the same manner as we treat our gypsies.

DECEMBER 3d. The Sheick being told that a large body of hostile Arabs were on the road, sent some people to treat with them, and desired us to remain at Rahaly, until his messengers returned.

returned. This morning about eleven o'clock, some of those Arabs came into our camp, and two of them stayed with us as refeeks. One of our servants shot two birds somewhat like a partridge, but rather larger, the breast of the male bird is covered with black spots, and the neck entirely black; the plumage of the hen bird is exactly like that of a hen partridge; the inhabitants of the town we found to be great thieves, they attempted to take every thing they could carry away unobserved. The Sheick dispatched a man to Meshed Aly, to see if there were any other hostile Arabs in the neighbourhood of that city, and also to learn if the Persians had abandoned Bassora; by their answers we were to regulate our march; the weather fair, the morning cold, the wind all the day at N. W. in the evening the weather was remarkably fine, and the air temperate. We gave the governor's brother a present of four piastras, and a Benish or long gown: this place is remarkable for fine greyhounds, we saw several in cloathing like our race horses.

DECEMBER 4th. Marched at seven this morning, the first two hours we passed over a light sand, on which grew a number of thorny bushes

bushes and some furze: about nine in the morning we saw a clump of trees to the left, where our people told us there was a small town called Ajeb, and to the right of us was a cupola built of stone, said to be the tomb of Sheick Huzzar; soon afterwards we passed over a place that had the appearance of a lake dried up, on the ground of which we found a great quantity of white salt of a bitumenous taste, it seemed to extend a great way to the N. E. and S. W. We were about an hour and a half in passing over it to the S. E. we then came on a sand and clay intermixed with gravel; about three o'clock we saw another clump of trees to the left of us: about five in the evening halted in a large plain of sand and gravel, and about four miles to the N. W. of a large ruined building, but it being late when we arrived at our ground, we postponed visiting it until the next morning. The Sheick said it was formerly built by the Greeks, and is called by the Arabs, Khuttar. Weather fair and wind N. W.

DECEMBER 5th. Marched twenty minutes before seven this morning. Accompanied by the Sheick and one of the refecks, we went to examine the ruin mentioned in last night's journal

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called Khuttar, it is situated on the bank of a bed of a river, which has been, and perhaps still is very deep when the freshes come down. The building is a large square, surrounded by a wall upwards of thirty-five feet high, and each face of it, somewhat more than two hundred yards in length, built of rough stone and mortar; within the large square there is a smaller one of about one hundred yards each face, and parallel with the outer wall: the interior part of the lesser square was divided into a number of chambers and passages, which being in a very ruinous state, we could not form any conjecture what they had been; we could see no place where there had been wells or reservoirs of water, but the Sheick told us that water is always found near the surface. We saw nothing like Grecian architecture, but our people say it was certainly built by the Greeks: when we were leaving this place we were alarmed by the appearance of some strange Arabs from the N. E. they appeared as soon as we got clear of the building, but some of our people with the caravan who had observed their motions coming to join us, the strange Arabs perceiving them, disappeared; at eleven o'clock we passed by two small pools of water, which were clear but extremely brackish:

ish : at half after four we halted, the country we passed over was sandy, and in some places mixed with clay ; about half after three we saw a number of hillocks of sand both to the right and to the left of us, Khuttar remained in sight, until half an hour before we encamped. Six men on camels and seven on foot came and encamped near us ; it appeared they were the same people that we saw in the morning, and were well known to be thieves. In the morning the wind at east and very cold, the weather fair ; dispatched another messenger this evening to Meshed Aly for intelligence.

DECEMBER 6th. Marched at a quarter before seven this morning, and left the people behind that encamped near us last night ; they mentioned to Sheick Suliman that a French gentleman going to Bassora, had been attacked and plundered ; and although much wounded was likely to live ; they said the Arabs carried him to Graine, and likewise that the gentleman behaved very gallantly, and killed two or three of their people himself. The soil of the country over which we passed till twelve o'clock was a light sand with some bushes, and a few small hills to the right and left of us : a quarter be-

fore twelve we arrived at a place called Hidia, where there was a pool of water, surrounded with high grass; we filled a few skins with the water, which was clear, but very brackish; afterwards passed over a country, the soil of which was mud impregnated with salt, there were banks of sand to the right and left of us. At the distance of about twelve miles E. by N. we saw the town of Meshed, or rather Mesgid Aly, that is the mosque or burying place of Aly, who it is well-known was the son-in-law of Mahomed, and the favorite prophet of the Persians. At a quarter before five we encamped near a place called Birket Rahama, wind E. S. E. weather fair. One of our servants observing a young camel without an owner, we sent out a man who brought it into our camp.

DECEMBER 7th. Marched rather before seven, the soil over which we passed was sand with thick bushes, saw at the distance of about ten miles to the N. E. the town of Mesgid Aly; we could plainly perceive several minarets, and a large gilt cupola; our Arabs say the latter belongs to the Mesgid or great mosque of that city; it appeared to us with great advantage, for the sun shone on it, and made it appear extremely brilliant:

liant: as well as we could judge of the size of
 the cupola at so great a distance, it cannot be less
 than the dome of St. Paul's. About twelve
 o'clock we came to a hill, on which were erected
 two small forts, the place is called Alathe. At
 the distance of three quarters of a mile from the
 Westward fort is a spring of water, which is con-
 veyed to the fort by a deep ditch, and is there
 raised by means of a wheel to water a small gar-
 den lately made about the fort, and planted with
 a great number of radishes and onions: the largest
 fort is a square about ninety yards each face, at
 each angle is a round tower built of mud, the
 inside is a stone building of two stories high,
 built in the Mahomedan stile: this place was
 founded by our Sheick, who proposes living here
 when age and infirmities compel him to retire.
 He seems to expect to lay the foundation of a
 very large town here, which, as there is plenty
 of water and a good soil of a light mould, for the
 purposes of agriculture and gardening; and above
 all its being situated in the high road from Mes-
 gid Aly to Bassora, and other places near the
 desert, is a very reasonable expectation. A ca-
 ravan that lately passed, which came from Graine,
 and was going to Bagdad told the people in the
 fort, that the Montifeek Arabs have had a great
 battle

battle with the Persians near Bassora, in which they cut off the whole Persian army, and thereby repossessed themselves of Bassora, the wind N. E. the weather fair, our course about S. E. by S. bought a sheep, and paid three dollars and a half for it.

DECEMBER 8th. Marched at a quarter before seven this morning over a barren stoney country, killed a few hares, saw at the distance of about ten miles N. E. of us the town of Gurgam an ancient city rebuilding. About two in the afternoon passed over a hill of red gravel, and at half after four halted in a valley where there was but very little pasture for the camels. About eight in the evening our centinels being posted as usual, one of those to the westward discovered five horsemen who fled the instant he fired at them. We doubled our guards and kept under arms for a few hours in expectation of their attacking us with a reinforcement. The messenger from Meshed Aly not returned, nor the people that were missing from the first place; the wind at E. morning cold, middle of the day exceedingly hot, the wind in the afternoon at N. E.

DECEMBER 9th. Marched at seven this morning, dark and cloudy to the N. W. and the wind

wind from that quarter: the first three hours, a very barren soil, hard sand and large dark brown soft stones, afterwards came to a hard sand and a great many shrubs; half after four halted, killed some hares, the weather cloudy and hazy, to the N. W. we saw a fire which they told us was on the banks of the Euphrates.—Major Thompson about noon missed his watch, but having looked at it about ten o'clock, he sent one of the Arabs back to search for it, telling him within what distance it must have fallen; the fellow very honestly brought it, nor was it broken.

DECEMBER 10th. Marched at seven this morning, passed over a very barren country, saw to the left of us three large volumes of smoke from the banks of the Euphrates, which the Sheick said was fifteen miles distance: at a quarter past twelve halted for half an hour near some wells of tolerable good water, until two o'clock the soil continued barren, then we got amongst some hills of light sand and broken stones. At four o'clock a large body of Arabs appeared to the right, who seemed inclined to attack us, our people immediately halted and drew up towards the enemy. Some few shot were fired, but a
man

man advanced waving a cloth in his hand, and began a treaty with our Sheick who went to meet him, which put an end to hostilities: our people were of different opinions concerning them, some insisted on their being thieves who intended to attack us in the night; the Sheick himself though he called them friends advised us not to pitch our tents, and also to be on our guard all night. We were encamped half a mile distant from the new comers, our own camels and baggage were drawn up in as small a circle as possible; our suspected enemies were divided into two camps, one to the westward and the other to the southward, wind westerly and weather fair.

DECEMBER 11th. The supposed thieves remained quiet all night in their camps with fires lighted; at half after six we began loading our camels, but did not move till half after seven; we judged it prudent to divide our men into two parties, one of them to march in front of the camels, and the other to bring up the rear. The first two hours the soil was sand with furze, and then a barren stoney country; afterwards a sand with furze and in some places large spots that looked like a pond dried up in summer. Rather before one in the afternoon we came to some wells

wells and also a large pond of brackish water; from thence proceeded over the same sort of country and soil as before till near five; and then encamped for the night: cloudy to the N. E. and S. W. a little rain between two and three in the morning; six of the party we saw last night joined us on the march, and were received with great cordiality by our people.

DECEMBER 12th. Marched rather before seven this morning and passed over a light sand mixt with salt, a great quantity of furze and some bushes; the latter part of the day the sand lay in great heaps or ledges: halted at four o'clock in a bottom; from an ascent near the camp we saw a ruin called Couria, about five miles to the southward, with a glass we could perceive it was a square building with round towers: the morning and evening were cool, but the middle of the day was very hot, the wind variable: the water we got yesterday brackish and exceedingly bad. At ten o'clock at night we dispatched a letter to Mr. Latouche at Bassora, to inform him of our being on the way, and desiring him to detain any vessel that might be ready to go to Bombay; one

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of

of the Arabs that joined us yesterday was selected by the Sheick to carry the letter*.

DECEMBER 13th. Marched at seven this morning over a very uneven country, the soil a light and deep sand. About four miles from our last night's encampment, we saw the track of a great number of camels and asses, which our people suspected to have been the encampment of a body of thieves. We turned off immediately due E. and passed over a deep sand, and a country covered with sand and bushes; in some places the ground was covered with dried mud and sand, which by the heat of the sun was hardened so as to appear like broken tiles; there was no appearance of a road. About two o'clock we observed two people at some distance from us, and sent three of our men after them, who took one of their camels and brought it to us, but the people escaped. At four o'clock halted at a place where there were a number of springs, but not much water

* Did not the Arabs much to their honour consider their faith once pledged as inviolable, they would not in this manner put themselves in the power of strangers, who but an instant before were in arms against them. The man delivered the letter exactly at the time prescribed and brought an answer, for which he was paid ten dollars.

in the wells; this evening for the first time we caught a desert rat, of which we had seen a great number; it is an animal that resembles very much a small rabbit both in shape and colour, the body is about the size of a small mole, the tail three times the length of the body, the point of which is covered with a small bush of hair; the eyes are large, full and black, the hind legs remarkably long. Weather fair, wind S. E. and very hot; paid the Sheick one hundred and ten dollars, the last payment of the five hundred kept for disbursements on the road.

DECEMBER 14th. Rained at two o'clock in the morning: marched at seven this morning over a plain country, a cold breeze from the S. E. and cloudy, halted at four o'clock. Course S. E.

DECEMBER 15th. Marched at seven this morning over a country of light sand and mostly barren; at nine in the morning saw a man on a camel, who told us he was a messenger going to the Sheick of the Montiffeeks from Sheick Sidon; he also informed us that Baffora was still in the hand of the Persians. In the evening we perceived some men on camels to the northward, but they did not come near us; we supposed them to

be of the same tribe as the man that passed in the morning; halted at five o'clock. Weather cloudy and some few drops of rain, wind W. N. W. and very cold, course S. E. by E.

DECEMBER 16th. Lightning to the N. E. marched at half after seven this morning, in a very dirty thick fog that came on about one o'clock in the morning from the N. E. separated from the caravan belonging to Khwaja Rubens, which went to Graine, and we proceeded towards Basfora with only sixteen men and nineteen camels. Our Sheick gave all the water to the other party, thinking we should arrive in the evening at the village of Coebda; but he was mistaken in the distance; for although we kept moving on till ten, we were obliged to pass the night very uncomfortably for want of something to drink: the very great concern expressed by the good old Sheick prevented our reproaching him for his imprudence; he offered to ride all night to search for water, but of course we did not allow him to fatigue himself.

DECEMBER 17th. A violent fog came on again last night, and continued so heavy as to soak through the tent. Early in the night before the fog came on, we saw three or four fires, apparently

rently at the distance of three or four miles to the E. N. E. the Sheick informed us they were on the banks of the Euphrates. Marched at day-break, and at half an hour after nine came to the village of Coebda, which had been ruined by the Persians; here we got some good water, at least it appeared so to us who had not tasted any for more than twenty-four hours. We also met at Coebda the person we had sent with the letter to Bassora, who brought an answer from Mr. Latouche. About one o'clock we arrived at Zebeer, another place which had also been destroyed by the Persians. In the evening Mr. Latouche, by a second messenger informed us, that in the morning he should send us mules and an escort; for as hostilities still continued between the Arabs and the Persians, our escort could not accompany us any further: the weather cleared up a little about noon, but was not quite clear until the evening. We pitched our tents amongst the ruins of Zebeer, and stationed an advanced picquet in front towards Bassora to guard against being surpris'd by the Persians; nor can this precaution be deemed unnecessary, considering the violent animosity that subsisted between the two nations, of which the following relation will sufficiently explain the cause.

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When the Persians took Bassora, they appointed Aly Mahomed governor of it, leaving with him a garrison of seven thousand five hundred men. Although he was such a monster, as is only to be found amidst the ruins of a country; he had art enough to conceal his disposition, until by an affected moderation, he had thrown the inhabitants of the adjacent towns and villages off their guard. In about two months however, he broke out, beginning his excesses in the city of Bassora itself. The first victim of his lust was the daughter of an Arabian physician, the fame of whose beauty having reached him, he caused her to be brought to his house, where he kept her for three days, and then turned her out of doors, exposed to the insults of the mob. The father had followed his daughter to the house of the ravisher when she was torn from him, and had never quitted his door; so that he was the first person to receive her when she was again dismissed. He conducted her home, intending on the way, in compliance with the customs of his country to put her to death; but before he could execute his intentions, his affection for his only child prevailed over his regard to custom; and he determined, not only to save her life, but also as much as possible by marriage, to wipe out the

the stain her reputation had received. He was rich and much respected in the city, which added to the beauty of the girl, enabled him to get a husband for her; not entirely equal to her proper rank, and former pretensions; but at the same time greatly above the vulgar. The celebration of such a wedding could not fail to make a great noise, and of course was soon known to the tyrant: whilst he continued sober the news of it seemed neither to afford him pleasure or pain; but in the first fit of intoxication, he sent for the father, the husband and the wife, and asked them how they durst presume to dispose of a person devoted to his pleasure? without waiting to receive their answer, he made one of his guards cut off the heads of the father, and the husband, and then compelled the woman to bring water to wash their blood off the hands of the executioner; nor did he stop here, but the sequel of his conduct was not only too shocking, but also too indecent to be related.

NOTWITHSTANDING such unheard of barbarity, the major part of the inhabitants of Zebeer and Coebda were so infatuated as to continue to live within twelve miles of him; imprudently relying on the faith of one who had thus

thus publicly violated all laws, both divine and human. A few, and but very few of the most prudent of them had left either of these places, when one night in a fit of drunkenness, and instigated by avarice, Aly Mahomed marched from Bassora with a body of troops and burnt Zebeer; at the same time putting to death all those who attempted to escape from the flames: from thence he marched to Coebda, where he acted in the same manner, and then returned to Bassora; exulting as much in having treacherously massacred, in cold blood, a number of defenceless people, as if he had obtained a glorious victory over a powerful army.

SUBMISSIVE as the subjects of despotic governments generally are, even under the heaviest oppressions; the inhabitants of Bassora would certainly have revolted against the governor, had not the city been almost depopulated, both by plague and famine before it fell into the hands of the Persians. The few wretched inhabitants who survived these dreadful calamities, could neither resist their tyrant, nor escape from him; their number was too small to hope for success against his force, and to remove from the city was impossible: they were therefore almost re-

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duced to despair when the gallant tribe of Arabs called Montiffeeks determined to rescue them from such a dreadful situation.

SHEICK TAMUR, the chief of this tribe having collected an army of about fifteen thousand men, advanced with a select party of about two thousand horse within sight of the walls of Bassora; the remainder he left about fifteen miles in the rear, concealed in a wadi, or water course, near the river Euphrates which place the Arabs destined for the scene of action; for besides the Euphrates to the East, and the water course to the North, there was a deep morass to the South. Aly Mahomed who did not want for personal courage, no sooner perceived his enemies near Bassora, than he marched out with five thousand chosen troops to attack them; the Arabs retreated towards their ambuscade, and were followed by the Persians. When the Sheick perceived the Persians had got between the water course and the morass, he sallied out of the place of his concealment; and with a part of the troops having closed up the only opening to the Westward, he charged them sword in hand, in which being also well seconded by the other detachment, which had decoyed them towards the ambuscade, they together put every man of the Persians to death,

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death, not leaving one alive to carry back the news of their defeat. By an over-sight, very difficult to be accounted for, Sheick Tamur neglected to pursue his victory, and march directly to Bassora, of which doubtless he would have easily made himself master; for Aly Mahomed had left only a small garrison in it, who would neither have had strength or spirit enough to have made any resistance. This account we received from one of the former inhabitants of Zeebeer, whom we found employed in searching among the ruins for what might have escaped the hands of the Persians, when they plundered and destroyed the place.

IN the evening we settled accounts with the Sheick, and so far from finding him mercenary and selfish as these people are generally represented; he behaved to us with a politeness and liberality that would have done honour to the most polished European. It will be remembered that by our written agreement at Aleppo, I was to give him five hundred dollars on the road, and eight hundred more on our arrival at Graine: the former sum therefore I kept ready to be paid to his order; but the latter I counted and sealed up in a bag to prevent any of them being lost or mislaid.

misaid. When this bag was brought, as I was going to open it, the Sheick stopped me; asking if it had been counted and sealed up in my presence: and when I answered in the affirmative, with a careless unaffected air, bespeaking no merit from the action, he threw it over his shoulder and ordered his servant to put it into his trunk. The reader will easily believe that this mark of his confidence gave me no small satisfaction; it was the more striking from our situation; for had I deceived him, he durst not have followed me to Bassora to demand redress. But lest the mention of this trait of Arabian politeness should be imputed to vanity; I shall at the conclusion of this work endeavour to account for the good understanding subsisting between us, and also to explain the causes of the disputes which too often happen between the Europeans and the Arabs.

DECEMBER 18th. At eleven o'clock the mules arrived from Bassora, escorted by ten sepoy's belonging to the factory; after taking leave of the Arabs, with mutual professions of friendship; and a request from our honest Sheick, that we would send for him to accompany us if ever we passed that way again, we left Zebeer.

As the sepoys were on foot, and moved slowly, we left them with the baggage and rode on towards Bassora. About half way we were met by Mr. Abraham and Mr. Gally, two of the company's servants, who very politely came to meet and conduct us to the English factory, at which we arrived rather before three in the afternoon: the appearance of Bassora was exceedingly gloomy, having as I have before observed been almost depopulated by a plague, a siege, and a famine. In the year 1772, there was supposed to be upwards of four hundred thousand inhabitants in the place, and on the day of our arrival, there were certainly not more than six thousand, including the Persians; the principal streets were like a burying ground, with scarcely a space of three feet between each grave.

DECEMBER 19th. Mr. Latouche endeavoured to get a country boat to convey us to Muscat, but he could not procure one without sending to Bunder Reeg, or Bunder Aboushaher; called by us Bunder Bushire.

DECEMBER 20th. The difficulty of procuring a boat was increased by an order sent from Shiras, to detain all boats for the use of the troops in their march to reinforce the garrison. This day we rode about the city, which in every part of it wore the
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same gloomy appearance. The few Arabian inhabitants that remain shewed great respect to Mr. Latouche as he passed along the streets, on account of his generosity and humanity towards them and their countrymen; one hundred and fifty of whom, after the reduction of the place he redeemed from slavery, at his own private expence, and sent to their relations in the country: an action that does honour to him, and even to the country that gave him birth.

DECEMBER 21st. News came that the Sheick of Julfa had taken a vessel belonging to Bombay, and sold the crew and passengers for slaves: this intelligence induced the gentlemen here to advise us to stay for a ship, as in country boats they thought we risked falling also into the Sheick's hands who might treat us in the same manner; but we were not at liberty to stay, having promised before we left England not to wait for a ship, if a boat could be procured.

DECEMBER 22d. The same difficulties still continued about procuring a boat, but before the end of the month, we were promised what is called a doa, which is a boat of twenty or thirty tons burthen, sewed with coir rope. The boats in which the inhabitants cross the Euphrates, to and from
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the city are nothing more than large round wicker baskets lined with leather; in which they carry not only men, but also horses, and sometimes camels.

DECEMBER 23d. Enquiring into the supposed cause of the plague that had almost depopulated this unfortunate city, I found it was in general imputed to an extraordinary inundation of the river, which left a great quantity of fish on the desert, and those fish becoming putrid, infecting the air. In riding about the environs of the city we saw an immense quantity of fish-bones still lying on the ground. The plague generally rages with most violence in Turkey and Egypt; in March and April, at which time the weather is extremely hot. As heat seems to increase the virulence of this disorder; as the weather is hotter in Hindostan than it is in Turkey; as the inhabitants also profess the same religion, observe the same customs, eat the same food, live in cities built in the same manner, and also in houses formed of the same materials, it is surprizing that the inhabitants of India have never been afflicted with this dreadful disorder; nor indeed can I find that it has ever been known within the Tropics, not even in Arabia Felix. So far from using uncommon precautions to guard against the

the infection; when the plague had depopulated Bassora, the ships coming from thence performed only five or six days quarantine on their arrival at any of the ports of India. I do not scruple to acknowledge that these hints are thrown out with a view to prevail on some humane and enlightened philosopher to turn his thoughts to the investigation of this matter. If the plague has never reached India, nor has even been known in the northern parts of Europe for many years past; might not some reason be assigned for its still continuing to rage in the milder climates between the two extremes? Could this dreadful disorder be driven from the face of the earth, which in my poor opinion is not impossible; a number of valuable lives would annually be saved, and the Levant would no longer be embarrassed with the tedious forms of a long quarantine. Besides an easy communication being once opened between those countries and Europe; it is to be hoped the absurd prejudices which have so long rendered the Christians and Mahomedans hostile to each other, would die away; and that real philanthropy, and universal urbanity, would succeed to savage persecution, and groundless hatred.

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DECEMBER 24th. At five o'clock in the afternoon, Saduc Khan entered the city, at the head of about four thousand horse. His men were stout and well-made, but they were miserably dressed and accoutred. The Prince himself is a very handsome man; as indeed are most of the Persians of distinction, being the offspring of the handsomest women of Georgia and Circassia, as well as of their own country.

DECEMBER 25th. Early this morning the master of a doa came to treat with us for his boat; at first he was very exorbitant in his demand; but at length became more reasonable, and promised to make it ready without delay. It being Christmas-day Mr. Latouche invited most of the Christian gentlemen to an entertainment at the factory: amongst which we found some of the Catholic missionaries very conversable agreeable men. Although no epicure, I cannot help remarking that the flesh of the wild hog which was one of the dishes we had for dinner, was by far the finest meat I ever tasted, which is probably owing to its feeding entirely upon dates.

DECEMBER 26, 27, and 28th. Making preparations for our voyage, the Nakhuda or Captain promised to sail before new year's day.

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-DECEMBER 29th. The Nakhuda called this morning, and said he should weigh anchor the next day with the ebb, which made about two o'clock in the afternoon.

DECEMBER 30th. About two o'clock we left the factory accompanied with the gentlemen belonging to it, who during our stay at Bassora constantly treated us with the greatest politeness and hospitality: they remained a little time on board the doa and then took leave; as they went out of the boat we weighed anchor with a light breeze at N. W. and the tide in our favour: in the morning we came to an anchor again at Aboo ul Khuseeb, where we remained to get wood, rice and dates, which are remarkable cheap and good at this place; Major Thomson stayed behind at Bassora.

DECEMBER 31st. Remained at anchor until one o'clock, then weighed, the wind at N. W. at twelve o'clock the wind dying away and the tide against us, we came to again: The river is about a mile and a quarter wide all the way from Bassora, and planted on both sides with date trees, amongst which a few towns and villages are interspersed, which have a very pleasing effect. We saw great numbers of wild ducks, and other water-fowl on the river, but could not get within gun-shot of them.

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them. At four in the evening we weighed anchor, and passed the mouth of a river to the Eastward, which they said was the boundary of the Bassora country, and the beginning of the Shaub.

JANUARY 1st, 1779. Weighed at six this morning with a light breeze at N. N. W. at day break we lost sight of the land, steered till twelve o'clock, E. S. E. then afterwards E. by N. by an observation found ourselves in the latitude of 29. 41. North, the weather rather cloudy; we passed several boats going towards the mouth of the river.

JANUARY 2d. The wind at N. W. and the weather fair; about ten o'clock we saw the land bearing South, and about one o'clock passed Cape Bang. On the mountains of Bang, there appeared a large fort, which our people said was built by the Greeks, and before it was in ruins was deemed impregnable.

JANUARY 3d. In the night the wind blew exceedingly hard with a high sea; the sail having been torn by the violence of the wind we lay to, whilst they cut it up to half its former size. At day break we made sail again, but the sail being torn a second time, and also the rudder damaged, we came to an anchor off Bunder Reeg, about three miles

miles from the shore. We wanted to get into that place, but we had overshot the port; and were therefore obliged to stand on towards Bunder Aboushaher, called by the Europeans Bunder Bushir. As the wind blew fresh, and the sea ran high, for want of a sail and a rudder the boat was several times in danger of filling. In the afternoon the wind moderated, and at four in the evening finding ourselves off Aboushaher, we stood into the road, and went on shore to our factory, where Mr. Beaumont the resident received us with the greatest politeness.

JANUARY 4th. The *doa* came into the harbour; on examining her we found that she not only wanted all kinds of stores, but also that her rudder was entirely destroyed; the wind blew strong from the southward.

JANUARY 5th. Finding the captain dilatory in purchasing stores and necessaries for the voyage, we threatened to buy them for him, and to deduct the price of them out of the balance of freight, which he was to receive at Muscat; to avoid which he himself bought an anchor stock, some spare rope, and two small sails, the wind at S. E. the weather cloudy with rain.

JANUARY 6th. The Nakhuda continued repairing his *doa*, and promised to be ready in the evening; wind and weather as yesterday. I made some enquiries of a man who had been at Persepolis, concerning the present state of the ruins of that city; he called it Tuckta Jumshid, and said that there are only a few pillars and arches left, which are almost covered with bushes. The Grecian name of Persepolis was totally unknown to him; he reckoned it about one hundred and twenty miles from Aboufaher. Finding this man equally unintelligent and communicative, I enquired of him also the present state of the modern cities, and indeed of the empire in general: he informed me that Ispahan, or as he called it Isfahan, was now almost entirely deserted; the seat of Government being transferred to Shiras, where Kerreem Khan the present Sovereign, or as he calls himself, the protector, resides. Kerreem Khan was one of the ablest Generals of the famous Nadir Shah, better known in Europe, by the name of Kouli Khan; when his master was assassinated, Kerreem Khan marched towards Persia, and having a large body of troops devoted to him, he assumed the reins of government, which he has held ever since. A Prince coming to a throne by hereditary succession, or by election, may venture to reside in an open city

city like Ispahan; but an usurper must endeavour to secure himself with fortifications: for this reason Kerreem fixed upon Shiras, which is surrounded with a wall and a ditch, sufficiently strong to resist the attacks of the Persians; and in order to render himself still more secure, he has obliged all his principal officers to bring their women into the city, from which none of them can ever go out again without his permission. Could any other advantages compensate for the want of liberty, the Persians would have no reason to complain of the rigour of this order; for at Shiras they certainly enjoy every pleasure that can be derived from a fine climate, and a fertile soil: they have fruits and vegetables of all kinds in abundance; and of the grapes they make a wine, the qualities of which have been celebrated by their well known Poet Hafiz, who has also spoke of the ladies with such enthusiasm, as to say the truth, would only become an oriental writer, but still there is no doubt of their being extremely beautiful: nor are the arts entirely unknown there, for at Shiras, they manufacture the finest sword blades in the world, and adorn the handles of them with an enamel which would be admired even in London or Paris. Nothing in short is wanting to make Persia a terrestrial paradise, excepting a regular government. The

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Usurper Kerreem is now dead, and has left a number of different competitors for the throne, but whatever successor he may have will find, he has much to do to unite a kingdom which for so many years has been in a state of anarchy and confusion.

THE great Kouli Khan ruined Persia : the force he collected for the invasion of Hindostan excited in the nation in general a spirit of enterprize and adventure ; and the influx of wealth from the plunder of that country, entirely destroyed the spirit of industry. In consequence of which, the cultivation of the lands has been neglected, trade abandoned, and those troops which were levied for conquest, having dissipated what they acquired by plunder ; have ever since been ravaging their own native country. The fate of Persia may serve as a lesson to all other nations, to prefer the more slow but salutary profits of trade. Superfluous wealth occasions a kind of frenzy in a kingdom, during the paroxysms of which it seems to have acquired uncommon strength ; but being exhausted by unnatural exertions, it at length sinks down a miserable victim to its disorder*.

JANU-

It has been said that Lord Clive proposed to pay the national debt by an expedition to China : he might in a convivial moment

JANUARY 7th. The Nakhuda promised to have the *doa* ready to sail in twenty-four hours, if the wind permitted. In the evening of this day there was a violent squall of wind from the S. E. accompanied with thunder, lightning and rain, which was the breaking up of the weather; for in the night the wind came round to the northward with a moderate breeze.

JANUARY 8th. The Nakhuda called in the morning to inform us he should sail in the evening about five o'clock, at which time we embarked and sailed in company with two *trankeys* bound to Gombroon, the wind N. N. W. and the weather fair.

JANUARY 9th. Fair weather with a fresh breeze at N. W. saw the mountain and Cape Burdistan, and at twelve o'clock bore away N. N. E. towards a shoal called the Cock, that we passed at one o'clock in the afternoon, and upon which two English ships have been lost; one of them in the

ment amongst his friend have said such a scheme was practicable, and so it certainly is; but he was too sound a politician, to wish to see one hundred and fifty millions of specie the amount of the national debt in his time, introduced at once into England, knowing as he must that the sudden introduction of one half of that sum, has irrecoverably ruined Persia one of the most highly gifted countries in the world.

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year 1763. On the mountain of Burdistan they used formerly by signals of fire in the night and of smoak in the day to convey intelligence to the merchants at Shiras, of the appearance of the ships expected from India; that they might instantly come to Aboufaher to purchase their goods. Latitude observed 27. 53. North.

JANUARY 10th. About two o'clock in the morning it grew calm, and continued so all day: about six in the evening a light breeze sprung up from S. S. E. About four miles from the shore saw Cape Naband E. by N. latitude 27. 11. North.

JANUARY 11th. Calm till about seven in the morning, then a light breeze sprung up from the N. W. saw a small boat coming from the Southward, and two others from the Eastward, said to belong to a pirate called Abd ul Rheman, they did not come within gun shot of us, but hovered about us till dark and then appeared no more. Within about six miles of the shore on which are high rocks called Dar ul Asban that appeared white like chalk, latitude observed 27. 8. North.

JANUARY 12th. A fresh breeze from the N. W. and fair weather, passed by the Island of Sheick

Sheick Shaub, Shudwan and Handeraby, latitude observed 26. 43. North.

JANUARY 13th. Calm the greatest part of the night and this morning, at eleven o'clock came on a fresh breeze from the N. W. which continued till seven in the evening, passed by the Islands about five, saw the highland about Gombroon bearing E. N. E. latitude observed 26. 23. North.

JANUARY 14th. Light airs and variable, passed the Islands of Kesh and Belior, latitude 26. 24. North.

JANUARY 15th. The wind at N. E. and blew fresh, coming further to the eastward. In the morning we ran in towards the Island of Kismis, near a place called Daag ul Kumuck, came to an anchor after ten o'clock, calm, latitude observed 26. 36. North. Two people who came in a small boat from the shore, confirmed to us the report that Mahomed Rashid Sheick of Julfa, had taken one of the company's vessels, going from Bombay to Bassora, and sold the crew for slaves.

JANUARY 16th. At nine in the morning weighed anchor, and went round the West end of the Island of Kismis, called by the Persians Touly, and came to an anchor again off Ras, (cape) Bassido
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which by an observation lays in the latitude of 26. 41. North. The people said that between twenty and thirty years ago, there had been a settlement of Europeans here; we saw the remains of a church, and the ruins of a large town that had been built with bricks dried in the sun. At two in the afternoon weighed with a light breeze at S. W. and the tide in our favor, the channel between Kifmis and the main at this place is about four miles wide. At Bassido we got a fresh supply of water, which was taken out of a reservoir that had been built by the Europeans, paved all through with a white stone: at this time there were not ten houses inhabited in this large ruined town, all which were Persians.

JANUARY 17th. Came to an anchor at half past ten at night, and did not weigh again until six the next morning. About seven we arrived amongst a parcel of Islands covered with trees most of which stood two feet or more in the water; the Islands are divided by very narrow channels, so that the trees almost meet and form a kind of harbour. About eleven o'clock it being calm and the tide making against us we again came to an anchor; the people whilst they were cutting wood saw three large wild hogs and some pigs. At half after eleven in the forenoon it began to rain hard, and to blow fresh from the N. W. which continued till two o'clock;

o'clock; then cleared up and being a settled wind we weighed. Until five in the evening we continued sailing through a narrow channel, amongst the Islands, and then came in sight of a fort and ruined town called Left; it is situated under a hill on the Island of Kifmis; the fort bore about S. W. of us at sun set; near this place we were obliged to wait for our boat that Sheick Aly the Nakhuda had sent on shore for some wood and fish for his own private use. About four in the afternoon made sail again and passed by a galivat belonging to Sheick Mahomed Miny of Ormus. No observation on account of the haziness of the weather.

JANUARY 18th. At night calm, the tide making against us, came to an anchor. In the morning at day break weighed with a light breeze to the S. W. Gombroon bearing about N. N. E. In the afternoon the wind freshened and came further to the westward, blowing very hard from five to seven in the afternoon, and then it began to moderate, no observation. Cape Salamet on the Island of Mahomed Salamet bore at sun set, about S. W.

JANUARY 19th. The wind continued to blow exceedingly hard from the westward, which made the vessel both roll and pitch very much: at half after eight the sail was broken by the violence of the

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wind;

wind; unbent it, and bent a smaller. The middle of the night being exceedingly cloudy, the Arabs for want of a compass did not know which way to steer; they had been going above two hours due North when we discovered it, and put them right; they had been deceived by a change of wind and bad steerage. In the morning came on a fresh breeze to the N. W. which continued till ten in the morning, it then grew calm, and afterwards sprung up from the same quarter: latitude observed 26. 29. North, distant from the shore about five leagues, high mountain near Cape Mozandan. The town of Lema bore of us at noon S. W. by W. the afternoon little wind and cloudy all round.

JANUARY 20th. About one o'clock this morning came on a fresh breeze at North, which increased with a following sea: about four o'clock in the morning our tiller rope broke, and it was with much difficulty we prevented the vessel from flying to. Three men got overboard to mend the rudder, in the mean time the vessel rolled so much that there was danger of her filling, or at least of her carrying away the mast; in about an hour the rudder being repaired, we got under sail again, the weather being dark and squally; the Nakhuda or Captain, and the Malleem, or pilot, thought it unsafe to continue any longer at sea, and therefore put in at Khorfakan,

kan, which is situated on the coast of Arabia, in a small bay open only to the Eastward; on the S. E. side of the bay is a harbour for boats, where we lay in smooth water, and entirely sheltered from all winds, it rained exceedingly hard the whole day, and consequently wetted our baggage and beds. At seven in the evening the clouds dispersed, and it began to clear up.

JANUARY 21st. About two o'clock this morning came on a very hard squall of wind and rain, with violent thunder and lightning from the N. W. which continued near an hour; had we been at sea we must inevitably have foundered in less than five minutes, for although we lay in a place surrounded with hills, the violence of the wind shook the vessel as if she had been struck by a broadside from a large ship. The wind being at S. E. we could not move, therefore at day-break we went on shore to the top of the hills to take a view of the country, and dry our cloaths, &c. on a small hill to the Westward of this little harbour, is a ruined castle, formerly built by Nadir Shah, to cover a magazine for his stores, when his troops besieged Muskat. The town which is situated at the bottom of the Bay was once considerable, but at present consists

fifts only of two or three houses built of stone, the rest are fishermens huts.

JANUARY 22d. At nine at night the wind being set in at N. W. and the weather fair, we weighed anchor from Khorfakan. When out at sea we saw some lightning from the S. E. At eleven at night the wind began to freshen from the N. W. and at one blew in hard squalls; at seven in the morning our tiller rope broke, which had not been mended above a quarter of an hour when a hard squall came, and the rudder itself was broken: as it was impossible to mend it without unhooking it, some of the people went overboard for that purpose, and in half an hour brought the remainder of the rudder on board; but it was full four hours before it was repaired: in the mean time, as we could not lay the vessel to, we lowered down the sail, and the vessel lay with her broadside to the wind; we expected she would fill every moment, for the wind blew very hard in squalls, with a short and heavy sea, when the rudder was mended, six of our people got into the sea to fix it. About twelve o'clock, with much difficulty we got her head round and scudded before the wind; just after we had repaired the rudder, we saw Cape Shenés, bearing west,

west, latitude observed 24. 34. N. We had no observation at Khorfakan, but from its bearing and distance this day at noon; I should suppose it lays in latitude 25. 13. North.

JANUARY 23d. At ten last night, in shifting the sail to haul in for the land, our tiller-rope broke again, and the vessel flew up in the wind. We tried when the rope was mended to bring her head round again to our proper course, but in vain, and therefore steered as much as we could to the westward. Our people were so much harrassed by the fatigues of the preceding day and night, that they could not be prevailed upon to exert themselves; but on the contrary were sulky and quarrelsome, upbraiding us with being the authors of their distresses, in obliging them to leave Khorfakan before the weather was settled. Our vessel being very lively shipped no sea, although the wind and sea encreased considerably. At day-break in the morning, passed between the islands of Sawady, and the town of Sohar on the Main: the wind being much more moderate, at five in the morning we came to an anchor at Muscat. The entrance of the outer port where we anchored is defended by several batteries even with the water's edge; but the
Arabs

Arabs with some reason depend most upon two forts, erected upon hills, commanding the mouth of the inner harbour, which are called Marany and Jillaly; not being acquainted with the rules of this place, we narrowly escaped getting into a scrape; for as no boats are allowed to go on shore after sun-set from the outer port, the guards stationed in the two above-mentioned forts fired at us; but fortunately they were bad marksmen, only one of their shot struck the boat. The Success, Grab, from Bombay, which was bound to Bassora with dispatches, was lying in the inner harbour; we went to the house of Narraindofs, the English broker, which although not a very elegant habitation appeared to us, who had been exposed to violent wind and incessant rain for eight and forty hours, a perfect palace.

JANUARY 24th. In the morning Captain Twyfs came and told us he should sail for Bassora the next day. He had six English gentlemen passengers with him that were going over the desert, and also Monsieur Borel de Bourg, the French officer, who had been plundered and wounded by the Arabs on the desert. Monsieur Borel wishing to hear the latest news from Europe, and perhaps also being desirous of con-
ver-

verfing with a perfon who had lately travelled the fame route as himfelf, came and fpent the evening with me at the broker's houfe. I told him that I was no ftranger to what had befallen him on the defert, and eafily prevailed on him to give me an account of his adventures.

THE particulars of the bufinefs upon which he was fent, he of courfe concealed, but in general terms he informed me that foon after the engagement between the two fleets near Brest, in July 1778; Monsieur de Sartine, his friend and patron ordered him to carry difpatches over land to India. I think he faid he left Marseilles on the third of Auguft; but that owing to the ftupidity of the Captain of his vefel, and to contrary winds, he did not arrive at Latichea before the end of the month; from thence he immediately proceeded to Aleppo. The French Conful could not collect more than twenty-five guards to attend him acrofs the defert; with which, on the fourteenth of September, he began his journey. He met with no ferialous moleftation, until he was within fifteen days of Baffora, when early one morning he perceived himfelf followed by a party of about thirty Arabs mounted on camels, who foon overtook him.

As they approached, he by his interpreter desired they would please to advance, or halt, or move to the right or left of him, for he chose to travel by himself; they answered that they should not interfere with him, and went forwards at a brisk rate. Mr. Borel's people then suspected them of some hostile design, and told him to be upon his guard. In the evening, between four and five o'clock, he observed them halted and drawn up as if to oppose him; and in a few minutes three other parties, consisting also of about thirty each appeared in sight, in opposite directions, seemingly inclined to surround him: from these appearances very naturally concluding their intentions to be hostile, and consequently his situation desperate, like a gallant man he thought only of selling his life as dearly as possible; he was armed with a double barrelled fuzee, a pair of pistols, and a sabre. As he kept marching on, he first fell in with the party in front, who fired at him, which he returned as soon as he came within musket shot of them, and killed the Sheick; when he had discharged his fire arms, before he could load them again, several of the Arabs broke in from different sides, and cut him down. Stunned with the violence of the blow, he knew nothing that

that passed afterwards, until about an hour before day-break the next morning, when he found himself entirely naked on the ground, a quantity of blood near him, and part of the flesh of the side of his head hanging upon his cheek. In a few minutes he recollected what had passed, but as he could feel no fracture or contusion in the skull, he began to think his wounds were not mortal: this however was only a transient gleam of hope, for it immediately occurred to him, that without clothes or even food, he was likely to suffer a much more painful death. The first objects that struck him when he began to look about him were those who had been killed on both sides in the action; but at the distance of a few hundred yards, he soon afterwards perceived a great number of Arabs seated round a large fire: these he naturally supposed were his enemies; nevertheless he determined to go to them, in hopes, either to prevail on them to save his life, or else to provoke them to put an immediate end to his miseries. Whilst he was thinking in what manner without the assistance of language he should be able to excite their compassion, and to soften their resentment against him for the death of their companions, which these people he had heard seldom forgive: it oc-

curred to him, that they paid great respect to age; and also that they seldom destroy those who supplicate mercy; from whence he concluded, that if he could throw himself under the protection of the oldest person amongst them, he might probably be saved. In order to approach them unperceived, he crept towards them upon his hands and knees; and when arrived within a few paces of their circle, having singled out one who had the most venerable appearance, he rushed forwards and springing over the head of one of the circle, he threw himself into the arms of him, whom he had selected for a protector. The whole party were at first extremely astonished, not having the least notion of his being alive; but when their surprize subsided, a debate arose whether or not they should allow him to live. One of them who had probably lost a friend or relation, drew his sword in a great rage, and was going to put him to death, but his protector interposed, stood up with great zeal in his defence, and would not suffer him to be injured; in consequence of which, his adversary immediately mounted his camel, and with a few followers went away. When this contest was over the Sheick, for so he happened to be, perceiving Monsieur Borel entirely without clothes,

clothes, presented him with his abba or outer cloak, invited him to approach the fire, and gave him coffee and a pipe, which an Arab when he is not on the march, has always prepared. The people finding Monsieur Borel did not understand Arabic enquired for his interpreter, who was found asleep and slightly wounded.

THE first demand the Arabs made was for his money and jewels, which they observed Europeans always have in great abundance, but which are concealed in private drawers, that none excepting themselves can discover. He assured them these opinions were erroneous with respect to him, for that he was not a rich merchant, but only a young soldier of fortune, employed to carry orders from his government in Europe to their settlements in India: but that if they would convey him to Graine, a place near Bassora on the sea coast; on their arrival there, and on the receipt of his papers, he would engage to pay them two hundred chequins, about one hundred pounds sterling. After a few minutes consultation with each other they acceded to his proposals, returned him his oldest Arabian dress, and during the rest of his journey treated him with tolerable kindness and attention.

AFTER

AFTER Mr. Borel's arrival at Graine, he easily prevailed on an Armenian to advance him the money to fulfil his engagements with the Arabs; and also to send the French resident at Bassora an account of what had befallen him on the desert, desiring to be supplied with money and other necessaries to enable him to proceed to Pondicherry. His letter very fortunately for us fell into the hands of the English resident at Bassora, who having heard of our rupture with France, was convinced he must be charged with public dispatches of consequence, and therefore determined to arrest him. Every generous mind will lament the necessity there was of adding to the distresses of this spirited and unfortunate youth; but the lives of thousands, and perhaps the safety of our settlements in India, depended upon his being intercepted; but to prevent his being treated with any rigour, or suffering any indignity, Mr. Abraham the second in council of the factory, was employed to seize him.

THE town of Graine which is situated about 70 miles S. E. of Bassora, is governed by an Arab Sheick who is very much attached to us; but Mr. Abraham knew it would be very difficult to prevail on him to violate the rights of hospitality to a stranger, and without the Sheick's connivance, the execution of the project would have been absolutely

solutely impracticable: the better to conceal his design, Mr. Abraham went down to Graine at night in a country boat, accompanied by the Captain of one of our ships then lying at Bassora, and immediately proceeded to the Sheick's house, to whom he communicated his business. The Arab at first violently opposed the measure; but being mollified by presents, and also assured that Mr. Borel should not receive any personal injury, he at last acquiesced. When Mr. Abraham knocked at the door, Mr. Borel was retired to rest, but he instantly got up to admit him, thinking he was a person sent from the French resident with an answer to his letter. As soon as he discovered his mistake he attempted to defend himself, but he was instantly overpowered and conveyed to the sea side, where he was put on board the ship that had been sent from Bassora, and was just then come to an anchor off the place. He had two pacquets, one for Pondicherry, and another for Mauritius, which were found; but Monsieur Borel observed to me, that they missed the key of the cypher in which the dispatches were written, by neglecting to search the lining of his cloaths. It was perhaps a fortunate circumstance for Monsieur Borel that he was taken prisoner by us, for his wound through unskilful management, and the want of proper remedies

medies was grown extremely bad; nor is it improbable that if he had attempted to proceed in a country boat, the only conveyance that he could have got at Graine; his wound would have occasioned his death long before the boat could have arrived at any French settlements in India. I made use of these arguments to console him for his misfortunes, but zeal for his country, the natural enthusiasm of his disposition, and the hopes which had been given him of promotion, had he executed his commission, made him deaf to every thing I could say to console him. Disappointed but not discouraged by his former sufferings, he was then on his way to Bassora to proceed over the great desert a second time; which I was afterwards informed, he passed with every assistance he could receive from the gentlemen of our factory.

JANUARY 26th. Remained at Muscat, the wind blowing directly into the mouth of the harbour.

JANUARY 26th. Went on board the dingy at day-light, and began warping out. At eleven in the forenoon got out of the harbour and sailed. The wind began to freshen in the afternoon, and there being appearances of its blowing still harder, at three in the afternoon, we put about and returned into the

the harbour of Muscat, came to an anchor off the fort of Merany. At seven in the evening another dingy that had sailed at the same time put back in a very shattered condition. The Grab that sailed in the morning went away before the wind to Bassora.

JANUARY 27th. The wind continued to blow exceedingly hard all last night from the S. E. Although we lay with two anchors under the cover of a hill in smooth water, we drove very much in the night. At day-break layed a grappling to the westward, and warped towards the harbour. At eight in the morning the wind came round to the westward, and blew very hard, with great clouds of dust that came off the land; the vessels that were going out, and also all the fishing boats immediately put back into the harbour; as our people seemed apprehensive of a hard gale; By their advice we also returned into the inner harbour, where we found three dingies waiting for a settled wind, to proceed to the Malabar coast with us; remained in the harbour, as the fort would not let us pass out in the evening.

JANUARY 28th. At day-break in the morning began to warp out of the harbour; and at eleven o'clock got under sail, but first went on board an English snow

bound to Aboushaer, commanded by Captain Johnson who gave us a quadrant, mine having been injured by a fall; he also kindly offered us every other assistance in his power. The wind at N. W. at sun-set Cape Curiat bearing S. W. by S. distant about five leagues. In the evening the wind began to slacken very much.

JANUARY 29th. Calm all night. Came on a light breeze this morning which lasted from seven to ten; calm all the rest of the day and the weather very hazy. Latitude observed, 23. 15. North.

JANUARY 30th. Calm the greatest part of the night. At four in the morning came on a light breeze to the N. W. At day-light saw a large vessel to the S. S. E. standing to the westward. Latitude observed 23. 9. N. Calm since noon, and a swell from the N. W.

JANUARY 31st. Very little wind all night. At three in the morning a light breeze sprung up to the Southward; in the afternoon it came round to the Westward, and at last settled in the N. W. Latitude observed 22. 24.

FEBRUARY 1st. Light wind all day from the N. W. and very fine weather. Latitude observed 22. 15.

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FEBRUARY 2d. Calm part of last night, afterwards a breeze from the N. W. continued till five in the morning. Calm till twelve o'clock. Latitude observed 21. 52. North. At two in the afternoon a breeze sprung up, which continued to freshen.

FEBRUARY 3d. Last night at eleven o'clock the wind came to N. E. and freshened to a very fine breeze. At two in the morning passed by two small dingies, supposed to be bound to Muscat, but did not hail them. Latitude 21. 19.

FEBRUARY 4th. A fresh breeze from the N. W. and fair weather. At nine saw a vessel to the N. E. quarter, standing to the Southward; we hauled our wind as soon as she appeared in sight, supposing her to be an enemy. She passed within a quarter of a mile to leeward of us, without taking any other notice, but hoisting her colours, which were Moors. Latitude observed 20. 30. North.

FEBRUARY 5th. Light winds at N. N. E. Latitude observed 19. 50. North.

FEBRUARY 6th. A fine fresh breeze at N. E. and very fair weather. At three in the afternoon layed to and sounded, found forty-six fathoms; saw

several shakes, the signs of being near the Malabar coast. Latitude observed 19. 22.

FEBRUARY 7th. Most part of the day very little wind, and sometimes calm. About two o'clock in the afternoon the sea wind sprung up and freshened to a fine breeze; hove to and sound-
ed, found forty-three fathoms: latitude observed 19. 15. Course E. $\frac{1}{2}$ N.

FEBRUARY 8th. A fine fresh breeze at N. W. for the most part of the day. Saw the land at day light in the morning, and at four in the afternoon came to an anchor in Bombay harbour, found there the Asia man of war, Capt. Vandeput; the Royal Admiral and Morse Indiamen, and several other country ships. The Asia and the two Indiamen arrived from England the day before us. At six in the evening went on shore to the governor's house and delivered him the pacquets.

Mr. Hornby the governor of Bombay, during our stay on that Island, entertained us very politely at his house, and ordered a vessel to be got ready to convey us to Anjengo. On the 14th of February we embarked on board the Terrible bomb-ketch, Capt. Baine, and arrived at Anjengo in nine days; a voyage at this season of the year on
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the Malabar coast is always agreeable, but was rendered particularly so to us, from the good humour, and good sense of our captain.

HAVING hired a palanquin and proper people to carry it, on the 24th in the evening I set out from Anjengo for Pallomcotta, and arrived there in three days, the distance is ninety one English miles.

	Miles.
From Anjengo to Bringon	20
Colachie	20
Cotata	19
The gate or barrier between the dominions of the king of Travancore and the nabob of Arcot	7
Pannagoodie	5
Naganachara	8
Pallamcotta	15
Total	91

My friend Captain Burrington, the commandant of that garrison, detained me one day whilst he sent orders to have palanquin bearers ready for me, at all the different stages on the road to Madras. After leaving Palamcotta, the first day I reached Madura, distant about ninety-six miles. The second day arrived at Trichonopoly ninety two miles :

miles; here I halted half a day having reason to believe the palanquin bearers were not stationed. The third day in the afternoon left Trichonopoly and arrived at Cuddalore in the evening of the fourth, one hundred and eight miles: remained here a few hours, and then proceeded through Pondicherry to Madras, one hundred and fourteen miles, where I arrived in the afternoon of the sixth day. The whole distance is estimated at four hundred and fourteen miles, which was performed in five days and a quarter, exclusive of stopping and a few unavoidable delays on the road. The travelling pace in a palanquin is on an average about four miles an hour.

It has been invariably my rule throughout this journal to acknowledge the attention I met with on the way; but without proceeding in the same manner after my arrival at Pallamcotta, and from thence to Madras; I shall only in general observe that travellers in India are always received with a liberal hospitality unknown in any other country. Not that I affect to say there is more urbanity in India, than in Europe; but as most of the Europeans in that country are known to each other; and there are no houses of public entertainment excepting at the presidencies; it of course becomes a matter of reciprocal convenience, that the chiefs at the different

ent out settlements, and the commandants of the fortified towns should keep a kind of open house, for all persons who are generally known, or properly introduced to them. How kindly and handsomely strangers are received on their first arrival in India is a fact of public notoriety, and general admiration. The letters of introduction, which persons carry out from England, not only procure them temporary civilities, but also obtain for the ladies in particular such a reception as almost surpasses belief. From the instant of their arrival, they are considered as belonging to the family to which they have been introduced, and from which they are never again separated, but by death or marriage.

It is hardly necessary to observe, that more attention has been paid to the matter, than to the style of this journal, particularly in that part of it which relates to the desert. But the observations were put down on the evening of the day on which they were made, and with no other view than to serve as memoranda; in which form perhaps they may be most acceptable to the generality of readers, as being the ideas of the country, as they occurred on the spot. It may be thought that too much has been said of wind and weather, which are seldom much noticed in books of travels by land.

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When travelling in a close carriage, it certainly does not signify what quarter the wind comes from, or whether it blows hot or cold: but this is not the case with a traveller exposed to the open air, with no other covering than the cloaths he wears. A person going across the desert will probably be glad to know what weather he is likely to meet with on his journey, that he may equip himself properly; and neither be encumbered with any thing superfluous, nor neglect taking any thing really necessary.

A PARTICULAR consideration of the character of the Arabs and a more minute description of the desert than is contained in this journal are kept as materials for a larger work. Nevertheless for the convenience of travellers who in the mean time may pass that way, and for whose use this journal was originally published; it may be proper to give a general idea of the desert and its inhabitants, by means of which the traveller will readily become acquainted with the principal difficulties he has to encounter; and also with the dispositions of the persons with whom he is about to associate.

THE great Desert of Arabia has often been represented as an immense space of barren sand, which never has nor ever can be made to produce any herb

herb or vegetable whatever; where consequently not only men could never reside; but where no animal of any kind could possibly exist. The journal itself confutes that opinion; in which the attentive reader will perceive that frequent mention is made of the ruins of buildings, which in all probability are only small remains of what once existed on those spots. Before the discovery of the passage round the Cape of Good Hope, when the productions of the East were necessarily brought part of the way to Europe by land, particularly in the remote ages of antiquity; the great desert was doubtless one of the principal channels of eastern commerce. At that time I suppose those buildings to have been erected, nor can I attribute the existence of Palmyra itself, which is situated in a most barren part of the desert, to any other cause. Water the great principal of both animal and vegetable life is not wanting. By means of those ravines or water courses which communicate with the Euphrates, and also from the wells which are interspersed throughout the desert; water enough might be obtained, not only for domestic uses, but also to answer the purposes of husbandry. The soil in general is by no means so barren as not to be capable of cultivation; there are but few spots that would not yield to the persevering hand of industry.

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Should the Christian powers hereafter drive the Turks out of Europe, and compel them to retreat beyond the bounds of Asia Minor; it is by no means improbable that towns and villages would then rise up on what is now called the desert; and the remains of those barren spots again become, what I believe them to have formerly been, only intermediate commons; like Salisbury plain, or Bagshot heath.

IN describing the Arabs, a person ought to enter into very nice discriminations, for every tribe has its peculiar character; but as it is intended on this occasion to vindicate them only from the common imputation of being faithless savages; I shall content myself for the present with giving a slight ~~sketch~~ of the most striking features of a desert Arab's mind. He like the rest of his fellow creatures is much governed by self-love; but this passion is so tempered and qualified in him, by the liberal dictates of honour and hospitality; and the mild and benevolent influence of pity, and compassion; as to preserve his uncultivated mind from sinking into absolute selfishness: these sentiments and passions correct even the violence of his religion's prejudices, and render him equally humane to a conquered enemy, whether a Christian, or a Mahomedan. Many circumstances mentioned in
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the preceding journal prove that this is a faithful outline of their character, and very different from the idea generally entertained of these people. The Bedouins who attacked us near Tiaba could certainly have cut us to pieces and made themselves masters of the whole of our property, but they preferred obtaining from us a moderate tribute for the merchandize belonging to Khwaja Rubens, and the Bagdad caravan. Their right to exact a tribute from passengers may perhaps be disputed; but it must be remembered that they are lords of the desert, and will be paid a duty for all merchandize that passes through their territories. Some caravans it is true are powerful enough to resist, and refuse to comply with their demands; and so do the armies of Prussia, Austria, and France force their way through the dominions of the smaller states of Germany: but a Frenchman must pay custom-house duties for his goods in Germany; as must a German satisfy the demands of government in France.

Our caravan was attacked a second time, but we were too powerful for our adversaries, in consequence of which a treaty took place, and fourteen of their people joined our party; nor during the remainder of our journey did the least mark of ill-

humour or resentment break out between our people and their new associates. It is true, that the Arabs who plundered Mr. Borel acted apparently in the first instance towards him with unwarrantable violence; but I am convinced they would not have gone such lengths had they found him disposed to treat and to pay them, as we did, a moderate tribute. In the engagement Mr. Borel killed several of their comrades; nevertheless when he recovered and implored their mercy, no man could have shewn more honour or spirit than the old Sheick did in his defence, which could only have proceeded from the most laudable and disinterested motives; for it is evident from their situation, that Mr. Borel had no opportunity of promising him any reward for his protection. To these might be added many other instances of equal honour and humanity shewn by the Arabs to Europeans, collected even from the accounts of those who complain most of ill treatment from them; but I flatter myself that those I have already mentioned, together with the remarkable instances of liberality in the old Sheick when I settled accounts with him; are sufficient testimonies of their possessing sentiments and passions that place them much above the rank of unfeeling barbarians.

THAT

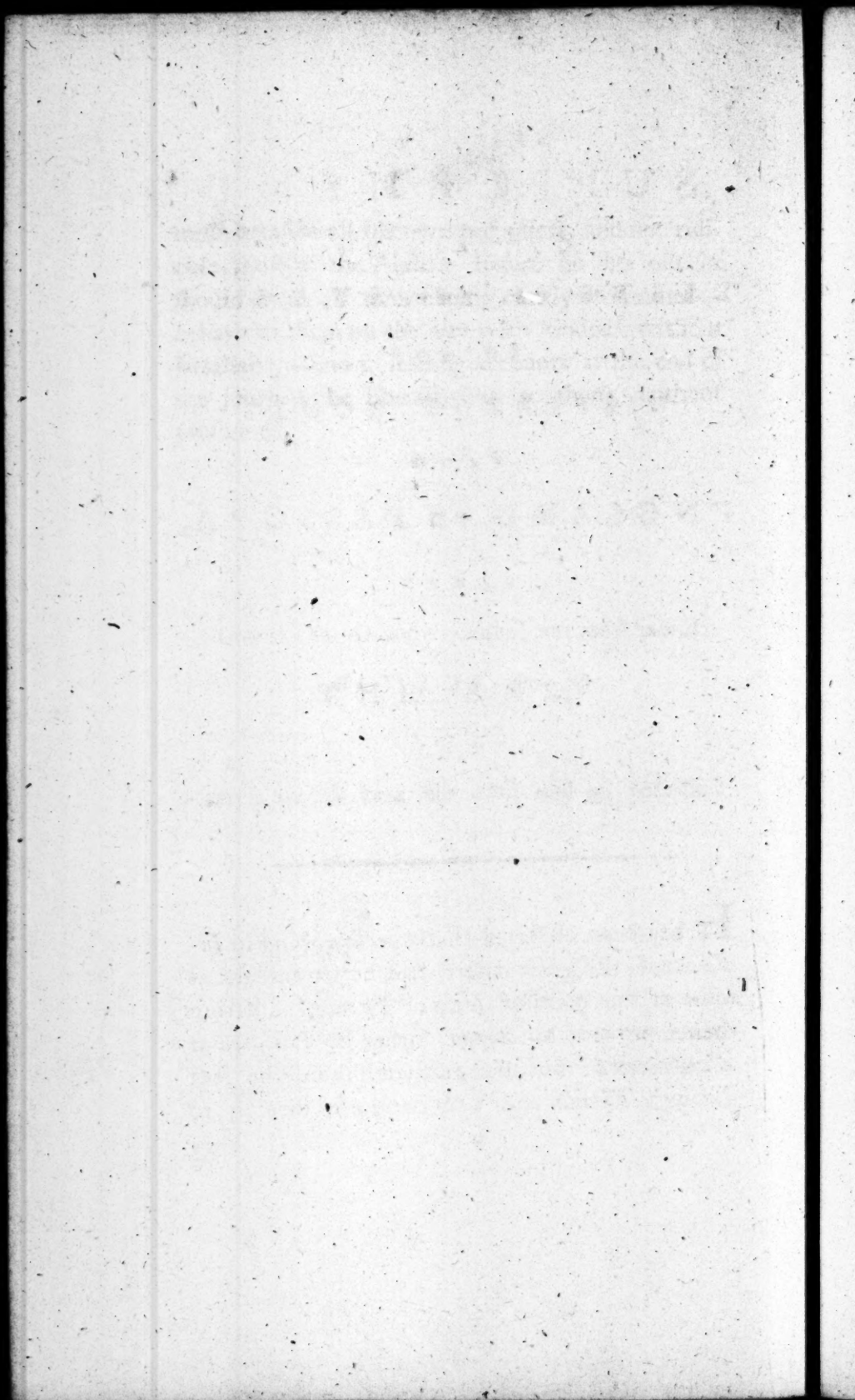
THAT some unfortunate travellers may have suffered from their violence and rapacity, I do not dispute; there are thieves and assassins in all parts of the inhabited globe; and into whose hands strangers, not properly introduced, are most likely to fall: but in most of the accounts I have read complaining of the Arabs, I have found great reason to believe that the sufferings of the Europeans originated in their own imprudence, or else in the treachery of their Interpreters. The books of travels in Europe are filled with melancholy stories of hair-breadth escapes from robbery and murder, and constant lamentations of insults and impositions. Why then are we to villify the characters of all the Arabs, and represent them as destitute of principle, because a person unacquainted with their language, or their manners and customs, has experienced the same ill treatment from the worst of their countrymen, as he would have been liable to meet with in any country in Europe? With equal propriety might a foreigner accuse all English men of being cheats, and highwaymen; because one of his countrymen has been imposed on at an inn; or robbed on the road between Dover and London. To sum up all that need be said on this subject for the present in a few words. An European who wishes to pass the desert with ease and safety, must

must lay aside all his own prejudices, and not ridicule those of the Arabs. Before he sets out he should have all their claims clearly ascertained—behave to them on the way with kindness without familiarity—and in settling accounts at the end of the journey, be liberally just to them, without profusion.

T H E E N D.

1870
must say unto all his own people, and not only
unto those of the Arabs. Before he lets out, he
should have all their claims clearly ascertained—
behave to them on the way with kindness without
familiarity—and in settling accounts at the end of
the journey, be specially just to them without
provision.

T H E E N D



SUPPLEMENT
CONTAINING
LISTS OF THE STAGES
IN THE
DIFFERENT ROUTS
FROM
ENGLAND TO BASSORA,
TAKEN

Either from the **JOURNALS** and **OBSERVATIONS**
Of the **AUTHOR,**
OR
Collected by him from the **BEST AUTHORITIES.**

IT has been observed that a person going to *India* across the great desert, had better embark at some of the parts of *Italy* or *France*, and from thence proceed to *Aleppo*, either by *Latichea* or *Alexandretta*: but that a dispatch should be sent through *Vienna* and *Constantinople*, directly to

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Bag-

SUPPLEMENT.

*Bagdad**; or else by *Aleppo*, to *Bassora*. Could I suppose this advice would invariably be followed, it would be unnecessary to take any further notice of the route by *Constantinople*, which in this case would be frequented only by couriers: but as curiosity may induce travellers who can command their time, to pass that way; I have collected with all possible care, correct lists of the different stages through *France*, the *Netherlands*, and *Holland* to *Vienna*; and so on by *Constantinople*, to *Aleppo*, and from thence by various routes to *Bassora*.

* A merchant who long resided at *Constantinople* and traded from thence to *Bagdad*, says; that when at the former, he frequently received expresses from the latter city in twelve or fourteen days. The distance is estimated at six hundred and fifty English miles. He is not acquainted with the name of each particular stage; but he says the couriers pass through *Tokut* or *Tokaiab*, where there is a manufacture of porcelain; and *Geumish Hanar*, near the silver mines, and so by *Diarbekir* to *Bagdad*.

SUPPLEMENT.

POSTS from CALAIS through STRASBURG to
VIENNA.

Names of Places	Posts	Names of Places	Posts
Calais		Toul	Brought over
to		Velaine	
Ardes	—	NANCY	—
La Recouffe	—	Domballe	—
ST. OMER	—	Luneville	—
Aire	—	Benaminil	—
Lillers	—	Blamont	—
Bethune	—	Hening	—
Souchet	—	Saarburg	—
ARRAS	—	Honnartin	—
Herville	—	Phalzburg	—
Bapaume	—	Sauerne	—
{ Sailly en	—	Wiltheim	—
{ Auroaise	—	Stiffeim	—
Péronne	—	STRASBOURG	—
Beauvoir	—		
St. Quentin	—		
Cerisy	—		
La Fere	—		
Laon	—		
Corbiny	—		
Berry au bac	—		
REIMS	—		
Petites loges	—		
Chalons	—		
Chepi	—		
La Chauffie	—		
St. Amand	—		
Vitry Le Francois	—		
Longchamp	—		
St. Dizier	—		
Saalsrupt	—		
Bar le duc	—		
Ligny	—		
St. Aubin	—		
Void	—		
Layers	—		
Carried over	56½	French Posts	77
		Kehl	—
		Bijhoffheim	—
		Stollhoffen	—
		Radtatt	—
		Erlinghen	—
		Durlach	—
		Pforzheim	—
		Entzwangen	—
		Constadt	—
		Blockinben	—
		Gosppinghen	—
		Geisslinghen	—
		Weßerfeiten	—
		ULM	—
		Guntzburg	—
		Sufmarshausen	—
		AUGSBURG	—
		Everfsburg	—
		Carried over	21

SUPPLEMENT.

POSTS from CALAIS, &c.		Names of Places		Posts
Names of Places		Brought over		
Schwalbaufen	—	Afche	—	7
MUNICH	—	BRUSSELS	—	1½
Anzing	—	Louvain	—	1½
Haag	—	Tirlemont	—	3
Humping	—	St. Trond	—	2
Alten Oeting	—	Tongem	—	2
Mackel	—	MAESTRICHT	—	1½
Braunau	—	Aix	—	1
Altbeim	—	Juliers	—	2
Ried	—	Bergen	—	1½
Unterbaag	—	COLOGNE	—	1
Lambach	—			1½
Vells	—			27
LINTZ	—			
Ens	—			
Screnberg	—			
Amstailen	—			
Kemmelbach	—			
Molk	—			
St. Polten	—			
Perfchling	—			
Sickhartkirchen	—			
Burkersdorf	—			
VIENNA	—			
German Posts	53½			

Note, The French Post on an average is five English miles. The German Post on an average is nearly twelve English miles.

POSTS from OSTENDE by COLOGNE to VIENNA.		Names of Places		Posts
Ostende to		Brought over		
BRUGES	—	Helveotsluys	—	12½
Alter	—	to	—	4½
GHEENT	—	ROTTERDAM	—	4
Quadregt	—	Dort	—	4
Aloft	—	Gorcum	—	4
		Lovestein Castle	—	3½
		Bommel, on the river Waal	—	
		Nimeguen	—	2
		CLEVES	—	2
		Santen	—	2
		Hockstrat	—	2
		Nuys	—	1
		Dormain	—	1
		COLOGNE	—	1
		Bonn	—	2
		Remagen	—	1½
		Andernach	—	1½
		Coblentz	—	1
		Nassau	—	1½
		Nasseden	—	1
Carried over	8½	Carried over	19½	

Note, At Cologne the route from Helveotsluys, and that from Ostende meet.

SUPPLEMENT.

POSTS from Helmschloss, &c.		Names of Places		Posts
Names of Places		Brought over		57
*Schwalbach	—	Beyerbach	—	1
MAYENCE	—	Efferding	—	1½
Haderheim	—	Lintz	—	1½
† Frankfort on the	—	Ens	—	1½
MAINE	—	Stremberg	—	1
HANAU	—	Amstatten	—	1½
Dettingen	—	Kemmelbach	—	1
Aschaffenburg	—	Mosk	—	1½
Besenbach	—	St. Polten	—	1½
Rolwibrun	—	Perchling	—	1
Efelbach	—	Sichtskirchen	—	1
Romling	—	Burkerdorf	—	1
WURTZBURG	—	VIENNA	—	1
Kitzingen	—			72½
Possenheim	—			
Langenfeld	—			
Emskirchen	—			
Farabach	—			
NURENBURGH	—			
Teuch	—			
Poschbaur	—			
Teining	—			
Tagwang	—			
Hohen Schambach	—			
§ RATISBON	—			
Psader	—			
Straubingen	—			
Platling	—			
Vilsbosen	—			
Passau	—			
Eissenheim	—			
Enzenkirchen	—			
Carried over	57			

POSTS from FRANKFORT to AUGSBURG.

Frankfort	—	
to	—	
Hanau	—	1
Dettingen	—	1
Aschaffembourg	—	1
Openburg	—	1
Milttenbourg	—	1
Handheim	—	1
Bischofsheim	—	1
Mergentheim	—	1
Blaufelden	—	1½
Creilsheim	—	1½
Dinkespuhl	—	1
Ottmann	—	1½
Wending	—	1½
Donauwert	—	1½
Meitungen	—	1½
AUGSBURG	—	1½

19½

¶ Or from Schwalbach to Wiesbaden 1 post; to Haderheim 1½; to Frankfort 1 post.

† In going during the summer season from Frankfort towards the Netherlands or Holland; it is very pleasant to pass by water to the place of destination.

§ It is also in summer a very pleasant voyage down the Danube from Ratisbon to Vienna.

SUPPLEMENT.

ROUT from FRANCKFORT and
AUGSBURG to INSPRUCK
through TRENT to VENICE.

Names of Places	Posts
*AUGSBURG	
to Schwabmuchen	1½
to Bucklor	1
to Kaufbeyren	1
to Staten	1
to Fuesen	1
to Hayderwang	1
to Lermes	1
to Nazareth	1
to Payerwis	1
to INSPRUCK	1
to Schonberg	1
to Stenach	1
to Brenner	1
to Storzigen	1
to Mittelewald	1
to Brixen	1
to Colman	1
to Teufchen	1
to Bolzano	1
to Branzel	1
to Neumarkel	1
to St. Micheli	1
to Trenta	1
to Pergini	1
to Borgo	2
to Primola	2
to Bassano	2
to Castel Franco	2½
to Treviso	1½
to Maefri	1½
to VENICE	1½
	35½

* There is another route from Augsburg to Fuesen, viz. Hurlach 1½ posts; Schwabdisen 1 post; Schabbruck 1 post; Saumesser 1 post; Fuesen 1 post.

POSTS from VIENNA to CON-
STANTINOPLE by the Way of
BELGRADE.

Names of Places	Posts
Hochan	1
Wimpasing	1
Gros Heflein	1
Vendenburg	1
Warasdorff	1
Guntz	1
Stein Am Anger	1
Korment	1½
Szala Egeszegh	2
Kahot	1½
Gros Kanisa	1½
Ibaros	1
Bresnitz	1
Babofea	1½
Isivandi	1½
Gros Szigeth	1
Saint Laurent	1
Funff Kirchen	1
Siklos	1½
Baranyawar	1½
Laskofeld	1
Effeg	1
Vera	1
Vukovar	1
Novafella	1
Patsch	1½
Kereskitscha	1
Gloschan	1
Peterwardien	2
Carlowitz	1
Peska	1
Panosze	2
Semlin	3
	41

Note, Semlin is 82 German miles from Vienna, and the last station in the German dominions going to Belgrade.

SUPPLEMENT.

POSTS from VIENNA, &c.

ROUT from CONSTANTINOPLE to ALEPPO.

From	Distance per Hour	Names of Places	Order of Posts	Distance by Hours
From Semlin cross the Danube to		CONSTANTINOPLE		
Belgrade —	5	across the Hellespont to Scuder or Scutari —	1	8
Krofska or Isarvit —	4	Scuder or Chrysopolis to Ghebize —	2	12½
Kolar —	6	Between this post & the next you ferry across the Gulph of Nicomedia to Hersek —	3	6
Hassan Basma Palanka —	7	Chinislik —	4	10
Batiscbina —	6	Leuke —	5	7
Jagodina —	4	Sekut —	6	10
Razna —	6	Esli Shaher —	7	9
Alexintza —	6	Saidee Khaxze —	8	13
Nissa, on the river Nissowa —	8	Cofruff Batha —	9	6
Mustafa Pasha —	4	Ballawadin —	10	7
Sarguoi —	6	Issaklee —	11	10
Saribrod —	5	Akshehar —	12	18
Sophia, on the river Bagona —	7	Il Gbaun —	13	21
Jegnikan —	6	Conia —	14	10
Kliman —	7	Karabeenar —	15	12
Kisbifar —	6	Eraglie, olim Heraclea —	16	10
Tzapar Bazageek —	6	Urucifla —	17	16
Philipopoli, on the river Marizza —	6	Adena —	18	12
Papuzli —	2½	Kat Callab —	19	9
Qayali —	5½	Byasi —	20	7
Usum-tsova —	3	Bylan —	21	10
Hermenli —	5	Antioch by Salkin —	22	36
Mustafa Pasha —	4	ALEPPO —		
Hebibchey —	3			
Adrianople, on the river Tungia Orta and Marizza —	7			
Apfa —	4			
Ekibaba —	6			
Burguse —	4			
Karesteran —	4			
Schourli —	6			
Kynicklu —	3½			
Situbria —	4½			
Buyuk Chickmagee —	6			
Kutcbuk Chickmagee —	3			
CONSTANTINOPLE —	3			
	176½			

Hrs. 260½

N. B. On account of the troubles in the road from Adena to Antioch; the thieves having driven the Turkish governor from Byasi and established themselves in it; Mr. Baldwin was forced to take the other road, as in his journal, by Caradash; but upon his return he had an escort from the thieves, and took the road as above.

Note, An hour's travelling is estimated at three English miles.

SUPPLEMENT.

ABSTRACT of the foregoing JOURNAL.

ROUT from ALEPPO to BASSORA, directly across the great desert.		Names of Places Brought over		Hours
Names of Places				
ALEPPO		<i>Haglet ul Havran</i>	—	125
to				10
<i>Neyreb</i>	—			6
<i>Haglier</i>	—			9
<i>Asbuck Masbook</i>	—	<i>Ruined Village</i>	—	9
				16
		<i>Rabaly</i>	—	3½
				10
				10
		<i>Hidia</i>	—	5
		<i>Birket Rabama</i>	—	4½
		<i>Alatbe, two small forts</i>		5
				9½
				9½
				8½
				9½
<i>Juab Kannum, or</i>	}			9
<i>Ain-ul-Horoof</i>				9
				9
				10
		<i>Coebda</i>	—	3
		<i>Zebeer</i>	—	3½
		BASSORA	—	3½
Carried over	125	Total Hours		227½

A JOURNEY over the little desert of ARABIA. from ALEPPO to BAGDAD and SEMMEVA by the EUPHRATES to BASSORA.

Names of Places	Hours	Computed English miles	Remarks
To <i>Spheree</i>	5 0	11½	Fine clear rivalets of water.
Remained encamped at <i>Spheree</i> .			
<i>Hagla</i>	4 12	9½	Well of bad water.
<i>Has Meserr</i>	8 30	19½	No water.
<i>Anda Veangul</i>	9 15	20½	No water.
{ <i>Elga, or</i> <i>Tebieliora</i>	10 30	23½	No water.

SUPPLEMENT.

JOURNEY, &c. by the Euphrates to BASSORA.				
Names of Places	Hours	English miles	Computed miles	Remarks
{ Near <i>Ain il Kom</i>				
{ or <i>Koum</i> —	7 30	16 $\frac{1}{2}$		Bad water.
At <i>Ain ul Koum</i> —	1 30	3 $\frac{1}{2}$		Good water.
{ The plain of <i>Geboul</i>				
{ <i>Busbier</i> —	8 30	19 $\frac{1}{2}$		No water.
<i>Hopra Fadle</i> —	10 0	22 $\frac{1}{2}$		No water.
<i>Ferrafche</i> —	6 30	14 $\frac{1}{2}$		Two wells of bad water.
<i>Geboul Busbier</i> —	8 45	19 $\frac{1}{2}$		No water.
<i>Dickaynia</i> —	8 0	18		Several wells of bad water.
{ The desert on the				
{ rout to <i>Routgaugh</i>	3 0	6 $\frac{5}{8}$		No water.
{ <i>Routgaugh</i> , or				
{ <i>Rutgar</i> . —	8 0	18		No water.
<i>Querlastep</i> —	8 30	19 $\frac{1}{2}$		Little rain water in the rocks.
<i>Gelta</i> — —	9 15	20 $\frac{6}{8}$		No water.
<i>Anna</i> — —	9 0	20 $\frac{1}{2}$		Euphrates.
{ Passed from the north-				
{ ward of the town to				
{ the south —	1 30	3 $\frac{1}{2}$		Along the Banks of Euphrates.
Encamped.				
Remained encamped.				
Crossed the <i>Euphrates</i>				
to				Encamped along the Euphrates.
<i>Der Mabomet</i> —	5 0	11 $\frac{1}{2}$		
<i>El Maface</i> —	7 30	16 $\frac{1}{2}$		Ditto.
From <i>Maface</i> left the caravan and with 13 camels travelled expeditionally to				
<i>Ther</i> or <i>Thur</i> —	9 45	31 $\frac{1}{2}$		No water.
{ To the northward of				
{ <i>Bagdad</i> salt plain	9 30	30 $\frac{1}{2}$		No Water.
{ Desert from the salt				
{ plain in the night	6 0	19 $\frac{1}{2}$		Well water.
{ Over a level desert				
{ and the beaten track				
{ of the salt caravan	8 30	27 $\frac{1}{2}$		Passed two wells of tolerable water.

SUPPLEMENT.

JOURNEY, &c. by the <i>Euphrates</i> to BASSORA.			
Names of Places	Hours	Computed English miles	Remarks
Same track in the night	3 10	11 ³ / ₈	Suppose there is water, but being night could not see.
over A very level desert and the beaten track of the salt caravans to Bagdad —	9 30	36 ⁷ / ₈	Several wells and re- servoirs of good wa- ter. River <i>Tigris</i> .

**ROUTE from BAGDAD to SEMMEVA with
mules or jack asses each carrying about
one hundred and fifty pounds weight.**

Names of Places	Miles	Hours
♦ BAGDAD to <i>Azad</i> — — —	13	4 30
<i>Berranefs</i> — — —	6	2 0
<i>Secundera</i> — — —	7 ¹ / ₂	2 30
<i>Mabarvil</i> — — —	12	4 0
<i>Hillab</i> — — —	11	3 45
<i>Emmam Ali</i> — — —	30	10 0
<i>Ramabie</i> , with horses loaded — — —	20	6 0
<i>Semmeva</i> — — —	52	16 0

	Miles
The distance from <i>Aleppo</i> to <i>Bagdad</i> —	466
<i>Bagdad</i> to <i>Semmeva</i> —	151
<i>Semmeva</i> to <i>Bassora</i> by water —	257

Total from *Aleppo* to *Bassora* 874

* From *Bagdad* there are two passages to *Bassora*, one by the *Tigris*, the other by the *Euphrates*: that by the former is described in the following extract from the journal of Capt. Elliot Elliots; of the latter many accounts have been already given.
 "On the 15th of April we took a bark to pass down the *Tigris* from *Bagdad* to *Bassora*. This river below *Bagdad* has two arms, one of which runs along the side of the ancient *Chaldea*, and the other towards the point of *Mesopotamia*; and they both form a large island, which is traversed by several small canals. When we came to the place where the two arms part, we saw what we took to be ruins of an ancient town, near three miles in compass. The walls that remain are so large, that six coaches may pass along them abreast at the same time. They are made of bricks burnt in the fire, each of which was ten feet square and three thick. We took that branch of the *Tigris* which runs along the side of *Chaldea*, for fear of falling into the hands of the Arabs; who at that time were at war with the *Bashaw* of *Bagdad*. We were
 ten

SUPPLEMENT.

THE following voyage up the EUPHRATES from BASSORA to HILLA and the itinerary from thence to BAGDAD, MOSUL, and DIARBEKIR, to ALEPPO, is extracted from the voyage of Mr. Ives.

APRIL 27th, 8 o'clock in the morning embarked, and by means of a fair wind and the assistance of the tide went 75 miles. 28th, passed *Cerna* or *Quorne*, a town situated at the conflux of the two rivers *Tigris* and *Euphrates*. 29th, tracked to *Manfurat*, an Arab village. 30th, passed several Arab villages, particularly *Moochalban*. May 1, passed *Nawasse* a town, and *Cota* an Arab village. Tracked 2d *Argia*, an Arab village tracked with difficulty. 3d, tracked to *Grayhim* an Arab town; from hence the branch of a large river communicates with the *Tigris*. 4th, tracked; 5th, tracked; 6th, tracked to the town of *Semmeva*. 7th, tracked with difficulty. 8th, tracked near *Monaradab*. 9th, tracked to the town of *Sembloon*. 10th, tracked to *Dewana* in the government of *Hafeu*. 11th, halted at *Dewana* to visit the governor. 12, afternoon, tracked and passed the fort of *Monoly*. 13th, pleasant country tracked. 14th, tracked; 15th, tracked. 16th, tracked, and passed the village *Afsea*, *Iffadea*, *Venahgara*, *Zada*, *Cbili*, *Dulah*, and at two o'clock in the afternoon arrived at *Hilla**. As the *Euphrates* at this place turns to the N.

W. tra-

ten days in passing from *Bagdad* to *Bassora*, and lay every night in the bark, and there dressed our victuals. When we came to any village we sent our people to purchase provisions, which they bought very cheap. The names of the villages by the side of this river are *Amur*, where there is a fort constructed of burnt bricks; *Satarat*, with a fort of the same kind; *Manfury*, a large town; *Mauar*, *Gamar*, and *Corno*. This last place stands on the point at the confluence of the *Euphrates*, and *Tigris*. It has three small castles, or forts, one of which stands upon the point, and is the strongest of the three; the second is on the side of *Chaldia*; and the third on that of *Arabia*. The maps call this city *Korna*, under which denomination it is best known."

* You may possibly reach *Hilla* on the *Euphrates* from *Bassora* in 12 days, but they are commonly 15 or 20 in their passage thither. From thence you may travel over the land to *Bagdad* in two days, and the journeys are but short neither. If you go up the *Tigris* you will be all the time upon the water; I would therefore advise you, as well on that account as for the sake of expedition, to take horses at *Isfmark*. When you are arrived at *Bagdad*, you are again to consider whether you will travel by the way of *Kubessa*, and over the little desert by *Mosul*, which lies farther up the *Tigris*. The time spent in passing over the little desert is fourteen or fifteen days, and you must make the same kind of provision as for travelling over the great desert. I must confess, I think this road deserves the preference. Europeans have frequently travelled this way singly. Having crossed the *Tigris* you must travel by land till you come to *Anna*, where you pass the *Euphrates*; but it will be necessary to procure a pass, which will be no difficult matter to obtain, if you have a proper recommendation from *Bassora*.

SUPPLEMENT.

W. travellers must go by land to *Bagdad*, which stands on the *Tigris* at the distance of about 50 miles from *Hilla* N. W.

May 17th accompanied by a small caravan and five Turkish horsemen at five P. M. left *Hilla*, and in five hours arrived at *Maboul Kauri*. 18th, *Serai* at *Escanderab* 15 miles, which being dirty proceeded to *Horta*, about eight miles further. 19th, march about 9 miles to *Azaup Serai*, a little beyond which the city of *Bagdad* is seen.

		Miles
From <i>Bassora</i> to <i>Corna</i>	—	75
to <i>Cota</i>	—	69
to <i>Semmeva</i>	—	147
to <i>Lembloen</i>	—	65
to <i>Affa</i>	—	31
to <i>Hilla</i>	—	52
to <i>Bagdad</i>	—	50
		489

JOURNEY from BAGDAD to ALEPPO as performed by Mr. Ives and his party.

June 19th.

	Hours
Left <i>Bagdad</i> seven in the evening, and arrived at <i>Yankjab</i> in	7
and from thence proceeded to <i>Dokbalab</i>	1
<i>Kann Musabab</i>	6
<i>Chiba Harpsie</i> river	4
<i>Dely abas couprie Kaun</i>	4
<i>Kuscadawire</i> , mountains	2
<i>Narin</i> , river	3
<i>Karatapa</i>	5
<i>Afke couprie</i>	7½
The <i>Courmaratida</i> mountains in sight to the right.	
<i>Danzcourmatu</i>	8½
<i>Tarwook</i>	7½
<i>Gergoot</i>	9
<i>Alton couprie</i>	9
<i>Yengee Kaun</i>	6
<i>Arvele</i>	4½
<i>Zarp</i> , river	8½
<i>Zaave</i>	1
<i>Camaliske Garwerkoe</i>	5
<i>Nineveh</i> , a small village, reputed to be the ruins of ancient	
<i>Nineveh</i>	5½
	Mojul

SUPPLEMENT.

						Hours
† <i>Mosul</i>	—	—	—	—	—	6
Stayed six days at <i>Mosul</i> .						
<i>Baduis</i> , river	—	—	—	—	—	3½
<i>Ejbeh</i> <i>Mosul</i>	—	—	—	—	—	5
					<i>Total</i>	

† “ The caravans which pass by *Mosul*, which is the road we took, make a shorter cut over the Desert of *Tegut*, to the westward of the *Tigris*. We had the *Bashaw* of *Bagdad*’s pass, which we found of very great service, for it procured us a very extraordinary respect wherever we came. Besides it exempted us from the visits of the custom-house people. Those who have no pass, had best gratify the custom-house officers with four or five *Mamoudies*, to prevent the opening of their baggage, though they have no right to demand any thing. The *Turks* are such lovers of money, that there is no danger in attempting to corrupt them in their office, for you may make your bargain in as plain terms as you please.

From *Bagdad* you may get to *Tbourkat* or *Karkut* in eight days, and from thence to *Mosul* in four. If your stomach is a little nice, you had best provide yourself with eatables at *Bagdad*, for the bread and rice that you may meet with on the road may not possibly be white. However, the best bread is to be had at *Bassora*; and as for butter, you will meet with none after you leave that place till you come to *Aleppo*. As for our parts, we found the bread upon the road pretty good. As you travel along, you will meet with villages on the road to lodge in from stage to stage. But for the apartments they will be of little use, except to defend you from the weather; for there is no furniture, and it will be a rarity to find so much as a little stool. As for other conveniences, you are not to expect them. However, you may probably travel all along this road, as we did, by ourselves, without the least interruption or incivility.

At *Karkut*, which is a strong city, it is usual to rest a day or two and replenish your panniers; that is you must lay in provisions for four days at least, which is the time you will spend in going to *Mosul*, as mentioned above. As for wine, you must take care to supply yourself at *Bassora*, and that for a month or more. At *Bagdad* you may probably replenish your store as well as at *Karkut*; and at *Mosul* you must purchase provisions of all kinds for six days; as also at *Cajenifar* or *Mardin* for *Orfar*, that is for six or eight days; and afterwards at that place for *Aleppo*, which is five days more; and among the Christians you will always meet with wine or brandy.

The place where you are most likely to be detained is *Mosul*, because you must either wait for a caravan, or hire a convoy; which last you may do at four rupees a man. If you will listen to them they will tell you, that it will be unsafe to travel without twenty or thirty of these people for a guard; but I am persuaded there is no such danger of robbers as they pretend. However there are caravans which set out from this place once in every ten or fourteen days, unless in the depth of winter, and they take a convoy, the money to pay which is levied by the Caravan *Bashi*, upon all the people of the caravan, generally in proportion to the goods which each person carries with him, but sometimes according to the number of beasts, and your share will consequently be but a trifle.

The usual time of travelling from *Mosul* to *Madan* or *Mardin* is eight days, and from *Mardin* to *Orfa* seven days. The first six days of the journey is over a desert almost without inhabitants, and therefore your fare will be good or bad according to the quality of the provisions you brought with you. Three days after you leave the *Tigris* the water begins to be brackish, and therefore it behoves you to take care to supply yourself with that which is good in time.

The caravan makes a halt at *Nisbin*, the next town to *Mosul*, where it is visited by the custom-house officers. But a gentleman that travels only with his baggage is under

SUPPLEMENT.

	Hours
<i>Talmash</i> , hill: the Sanjalk mountain on the left	5
<i>Sefaga</i>	8
<i>Demir Rapet</i> (a stream)	10
<i>Garaza</i>	6½
<i>Nishbin</i>	7½
(From hence dispatched a letter to the Consul at <i>Aleppo</i> , to be delivered in seven days).	
<i>Serka Kapp</i> (a river)	1½
<i>Arsin</i>	8
<i>Mardin</i>	2
Arrived at <i>Diarbekir</i> 21st July, two o'Clock afternoon, where we stayed	25
<i>Inupu</i>	24
<i>Menifferab</i>	12½
N. B. <i>Urfa</i> the capital of a Bashaw five hours S. W.	
From <i>Menifferab</i> to <i>Pesillekew</i> a valley, and the neighbouring village <i>Hanruab</i>	3
<i>Cortacour</i> , near a stream	12
<i>Bir</i> , or <i>Birjoup</i> , on the eastern banks of the <i>Euphrates</i> , a large town	5
<i>Mazar</i> (passed this village)	3
Encamped in a valley	1½
(From whence we dispatched another letter to <i>Aleppo</i> , to be delivered in 24 hours).	
<i>Saguera</i> (a town and river)	4½
(Here we received a letter from the Consul at <i>Aleppo</i>).	
<i>Carawanfarab</i>	8
(From whence we abruptly left the Bashaw and proceeded to <i>Aleppo</i>).	

under no necessity of stopping on that account, for he may proceed directly for *Cejawissan*, or *Cejasar*, which is a day's journey and a half further. *Mardin* is a large town, about four or five miles out of the road, but it is worth seeing; and, which is a greater inducement, there is good wine to be had there, to serve you on the road to *Orfa*, which is five or six days journey more; and there likewise you will meet with people to make up a sufficient caravan for the same road."

Vide Journal of Capt. Elliot Elliot.

A TABLE

SUPPLEMENT.

A TABLE of the Distance between each of the capital Cities
and Towns in the Route from BASSORA to LATICHEA.

		Miles
From <i>Bassora</i> as before	to <i>Bagdad</i>	489
<i>Bagdad</i>	to <i>Gergoot</i>	167
<i>Gergoot</i>	to <i>Arveta</i>	54
<i>Arveta</i>	to <i>Mosul</i>	49
<i>Mosul</i>	to <i>Nisbin</i>	103
<i>Nisbin</i>	to <i>Arin</i>	26
<i>Arin</i>	to <i>Diarbekir</i>	58
<i>Diarbekir</i>	to <i>Bir</i>	147
<i>Bir</i>	to <i>Aleppo</i>	94
<i>Aleppo</i>	to <i>Latichea</i>	102
Total of Miles		1289

F I N I S.

REPORT

TABLE of the District of Columbia and the Capital City

Area	Population	Area	Population
1	100	1	100
2	200	2	200
3	300	3	300
4	400	4	400
5	500	5	500
6	600	6	600
7	700	7	700
8	800	8	800
9	900	9	900
10	1000	10	1000
11	1100	11	1100
12	1200	12	1200
13	1300	13	1300
14	1400	14	1400
15	1500	15	1500
16	1600	16	1600
17	1700	17	1700
18	1800	18	1800
19	1900	19	1900
20	2000	20	2000
21	2100	21	2100
22	2200	22	2200
23	2300	23	2300
24	2400	24	2400
25	2500	25	2500
26	2600	26	2600
27	2700	27	2700
28	2800	28	2800
29	2900	29	2900
30	3000	30	3000
31	3100	31	3100
32	3200	32	3200
33	3300	33	3300
34	3400	34	3400
35	3500	35	3500
36	3600	36	3600
37	3700	37	3700
38	3800	38	3800
39	3900	39	3900
40	4000	40	4000
41	4100	41	4100
42	4200	42	4200
43	4300	43	4300
44	4400	44	4400
45	4500	45	4500
46	4600	46	4600
47	4700	47	4700
48	4800	48	4800
49	4900	49	4900
50	5000	50	5000
51	5100	51	5100
52	5200	52	5200
53	5300	53	5300
54	5400	54	5400
55	5500	55	5500
56	5600	56	5600
57	5700	57	5700
58	5800	58	5800
59	5900	59	5900
60	6000	60	6000
61	6100	61	6100
62	6200	62	6200
63	6300	63	6300
64	6400	64	6400
65	6500	65	6500
66	6600	66	6600
67	6700	67	6700
68	6800	68	6800
69	6900	69	6900
70	7000	70	7000
71	7100	71	7100
72	7200	72	7200
73	7300	73	7300
74	7400	74	7400
75	7500	75	7500
76	7600	76	7600
77	7700	77	7700
78	7800	78	7800
79	7900	79	7900
80	8000	80	8000
81	8100	81	8100
82	8200	82	8200
83	8300	83	8300
84	8400	84	8400
85	8500	85	8500
86	8600	86	8600
87	8700	87	8700
88	8800	88	8800
89	8900	89	8900
90	9000	90	9000
91	9100	91	9100
92	9200	92	9200
93	9300	93	9300
94	9400	94	9400
95	9500	95	9500
96	9600	96	9600
97	9700	97	9700
98	9800	98	9800
99	9900	99	9900
100	10000	100	10000

